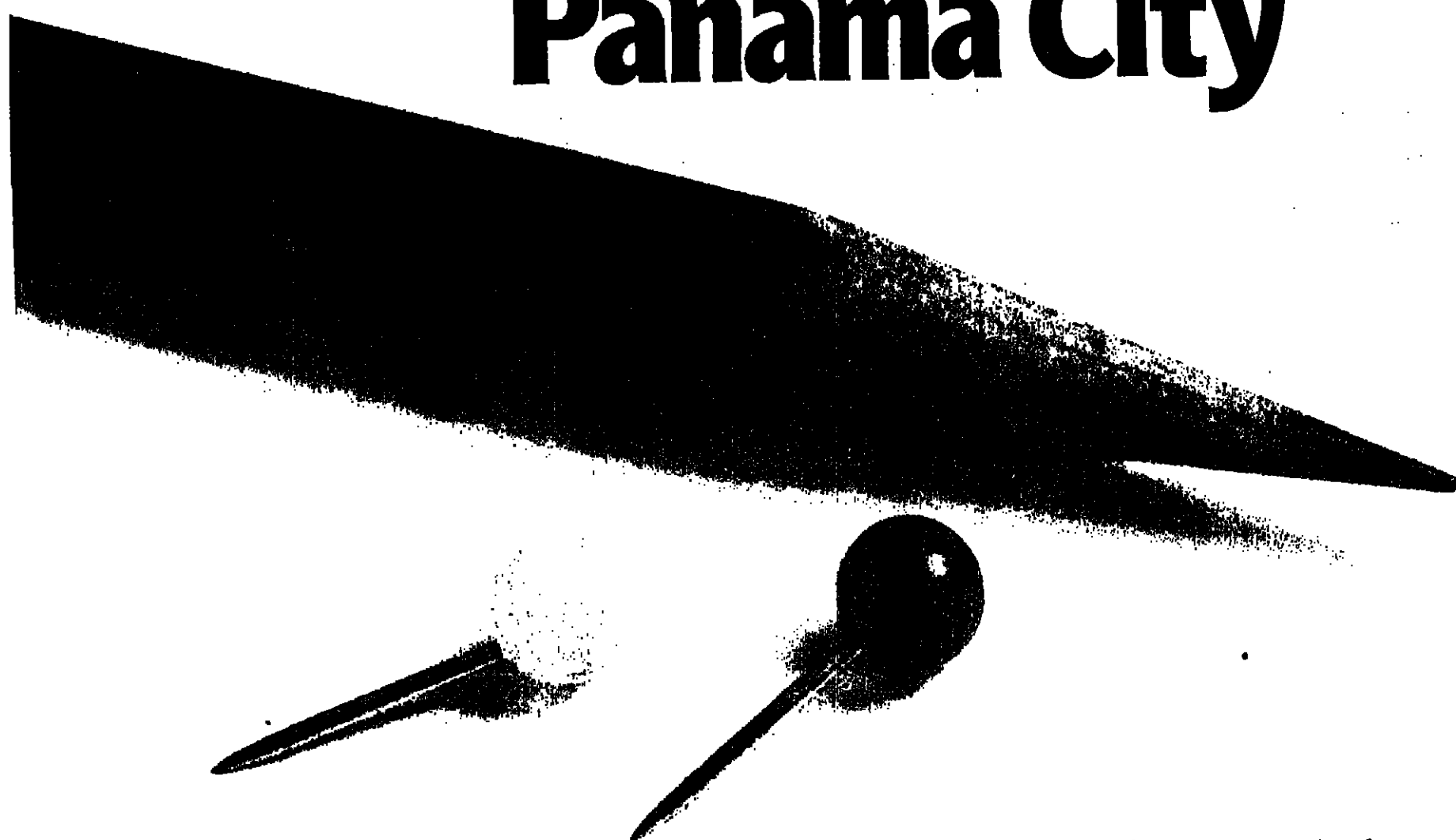
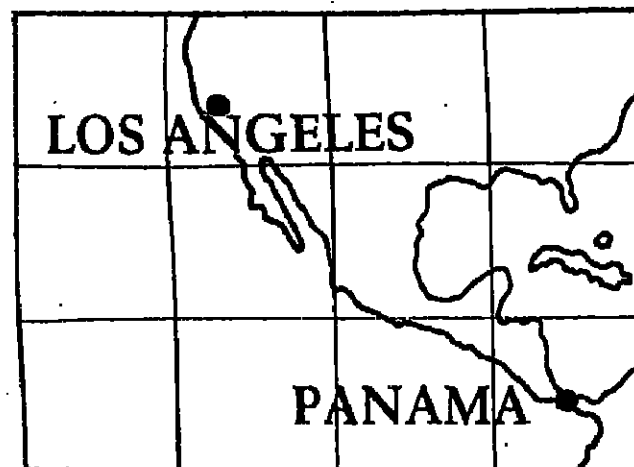


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THE LATEST NEWS FROM ISRAEL

Published in Jerusalem
יצא לאור בישראל

- A dream in the desert, page 10
- Ethnic conflict loses steam, page 16
- The trials of Yosef Begun, page 17
- Today: the way to survival, page 18
- Business: buying a share in Israel, 20

Furore as Israelis meet with Arafat

Jerusalem Post Staff and agencies

A storm has erupted over a recent meeting between three left-wing Israelis and PLO leader Yasser Arafat, with three cabinet ministers demanding new legislation to make such meetings illegal.

The four-hour meeting took place over the weekend of January 14-16, but both sides agreed not to divulge the exact time and place.

The three Israelis — Uri Avnery, editor of the sensationalist weekly *Haolam Hazeh*, reserves general Mattityahu Peled and former Finance Ministry director-general Ya'acov Arnon, are leaders of the Council for Israel-Palestinian Peace and members of the small, leftist Sheli party. They said they are considering attending next month's meeting of the Palestine Liberation Organization's National Council in Algeria as invited observers.

Speaking on Israel TV last week, Peled said he was convinced the PLO's activities were now aimed at reaching peace by establishing two states — Israeli and a Palestinian state — side by side. He stressed that the Israel Council for Israel-Palestinian Peace would only act within Israeli law.

Sources at the Prime Minister's

Office reacted to news of the meeting by saying that "The persons Yasser Arafat described as prominent Israelis failed to elect even a single member to the Knesset. Arafat met with a fringe element in Israeli society and not those who represent mainstream opinion here."

Avnery created a furore last summer when he met Arafat during the IDF siege of West Beirut.

Justice Minister Moshe Nissim said that he had not been approached by Prime Minister Menachem Begin to consider amending the law to make meeting with Arafat a punishable offence. Following Sunday's cabinet meeting, however, there were reports that Nissim would consider drafting new legislation.

MK Moshe Shahal, leader of the Labour Party Knesset faction, said that current Israeli legislation was sufficient for the attorney-general to prosecute if he saw fit.

The Labour Party was reported on Sunday to have criticized the three Sheli leaders.

Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i was among those who wanted an amendment to the law.

Moda'i said it was "regrettable that Israel must resort to legislation to achieve something which the president of the U.S. and the prime minister of Great Britain regard as self-evident."

Sources close to Minister Nissim, said he sees the idea of amending the law as being fraught with many considerations, both legal and political.

Well-placed government legal experts affirmed last week that the law as it presently stands — and especially in light of Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir's rulings on meetings with Arafat during the



Justice Minister Nissim...a question of amending the law.

'No confrontation with U.S.'

There were reports of growing confrontation between the U.S. and Israel over the weekend as U.S. special Middle East envoy Philip Habib shuttled between Israel and Arab capitals.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Meir denied reports that Habib had made veiled threats about an imposed solution in regard to Lebanon. Ben-Meir also said there was no alternative to having Israel-manned early warning stations in South Lebanon, which is one of the sticking points in the trilateral negotiations between the U.S., Lebanon and Israel on the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

The U.S. opposes the idea of maintaining a small number of Israelis at three outposts in Lebanon. Washington also objects to Israeli air and sea surveillance in Lebanese territory.

Deputy Minister Meir said he had not heard of any threats by Habib and stressed that the U.S. and Israel have common goals in Lebanon. "There's a lot of exaggeration" about confrontation, he said.

The *Wall Street Journal*, meanwhile, said that the Reagan administration is planning to exert economic and military pressure on Israel unless Jerusalem shows more flexibility.

The newspaper reported that top U.S. officials say Jordan's King Hussein will soon become a party to negotiations; and intransigence on the part of Israel is predicted. (See also page 2.)



Members of Israel's leftist Sheli party and Palestine Liberation Organization leaders met recently, reportedly in Tunis. Left to right are Ya'acov Arnon, Uri Avnery, Yasser Arafat, Mattityahu Peled and Issam Sartawi. (Israel TV)

Ferment in the stock market

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN
and AVI TEMKIN

TEL AVIV. — The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange Thursday suffered one of its worst sessions in recent history, with 137 of the 500-odd securities registered for trading falling in value by margins of more than 5 per cent. Many fell by 10 per cent or more.

In addition, there were 142 securities which were marked "sellers only." These were automatically marked down by 5 per cent, without any trading taking place.

The near-panic in the market came in the wake of news-media reports that the Treasury would impose curbs on mutual funds. Reports on Israel Radio suggested that the management of the Tel Aviv exchange might decide to cancel trading altogether.

The market's decline continued on Sunday — when trading was resumed after Thursday's session — with only a few stocks defying the trend.

Treasury officials sought to calm investors in mutual funds, stressing that it would take several weeks before the necessary legislation is prepared and implemented. There is no reason to panic, the officials said.

Banking circles reported to the exchange that the chaotic conditions ensued Thursday in the wake of the radio report. Selling orders were received from all parts of the country.

A member of the exchange management suggested to *The Jerusalem Post* that the Treasury

should have been more cautious in the way it let its intentions be known. Great caution must be exercised when making statements at a time when the public is excessively sensitive to news of the imposition of any new regulations, he said. This is especially true of the current situation when more than a few individuals have been talking of an impending stock market crash, he stated.

The exchange's general manager, Yosef Nitzani, stated that Thursday's action on the stock exchange could not be called a "crash." There were buyers around and support for quite a few securities, Nitzani said.

Nitzani also said that he expects that once the public understands that the proposed changes will be carried out over a period of time and in a gradual manner, it will stop its indiscriminate selling.

A veteran stock market observer called the sell-off a "classic case of over-reaction to news which had, at best, only long-term implications as to the future course of the market."

The index-linked bond market was mixed but turnovers were sharply up. In stock exchange circles it was suggested that index-linked bonds were sold in an effort to raise funds to support the prices

of shares. For the greater part the prices of the shares of the commercial banks were either unchanged or moved moderately higher.

Treasury officials noted that the measures are the latest step in a creeping reform of the capital market, begun several months ago by Finance Minister Yoram Aridor.

According to the Treasury announcement:

- Each mutual fund will not be permitted to hold more than 5 per cent of the total value of a single share issue. The present limit is 10 per cent.
- The managers of a single company managing a number of mutual funds will not be permitted to hold more than 10 to 15 per cent of the value of a single share issue by all their funds together. There is no limit now the value of a single share issue that a manager can own through his different mutual funds.
- The Treasury will not approve the creation of new mutual funds specializing in certain channels of investment, if the requesting company already manages such a fund.
- From now on, every company issuing shares to the public will need to invest the sums raised in government indexed bonds, until the pro-

(Continued on page 4)

NEWSTAND PRICES IN LOCAL CURRENCY

Australia	\$1.20	Italy	Li.1,400
Canada	\$1.45	South Africa	Rd1.20
Denmark	DKK.00	Sweden	SKR.50
Germany	DM2.80	Switzerland	SFR.30
Holland	DF3.00	United Kingdom	80p
Israel	1822.00	United States	\$1.25

How the state of war with Lebanon might be ended

By DAVID LANDAU
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

As negotiations continue between Israel and Lebanon on the withdrawal of foreign forces from that country, a joint declaration by Russia and Japan in 1956 on the termination of the state of war between them is being cited by Israeli negotiators as a useful precedent for the talks.

Apart from Lebanon's reluctance to establish normal relations with Israel, one of the main points of dispute is over who should man early-warning stations in Lebanon. The Lebanese are against allowing Israel to control the stations, but are reported to have agreed to Americans doing so.

The Russo-Japanese pact provided for an end of the state of war, for "peace and good neighbourly relations," and for diplomatic ties.

Lebanon has already made it clear that it will not agree to diplomatic ties, though it has agreed to an agenda subheading termed "liaison," indicating some formal and continuing contacts between the two countries in the future. Lebanon has also balked at the words "good neighbourly relations" in the agenda, and would presumably reject them — and almost definitely reject the word "peace" — in the final end-of-state-of-war agreement.

But the Russo-Japanese document also provides for adherence to "the principles of the UN Charter in their mutual relations," and pledges both countries to refrain from "interference in each other's

internal affairs." Both of these points could usefully be incorporated in an Israel-Lebanon accord, observers in Jerusalem believe.

The fundamental importance of the Russo-Japanese document, however, lies in the very fact that it ended the state of war between the two countries without being a full-fledged peace treaty.

Lebanon has consistently ruled out any idea of a peace treaty, and Israel does not aspire to one at this stage.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Sulem last week reiterated that Lebanon will not agree to any deal that would take it out of the general Arab orbit and into a special relationship with Israel.

Japan and Russia did not conclude a full peace treaty — and have not concluded one to this day — because of their continuing dispute over what Japan calls its Northern Territories.

Israeli sources seem pleased with progress made in the talks with Lebanon in the end-of-state-of-war issue. A subcommittee specifically devoted to the matter was set up last week, and while there has been no final drafting yet, there is understood to be a large measure of agreement.

There will be no proclamation of progress in this single area, however, until the parties can show success on other agenda items.

Last week, at the eighth round of the talks at Kiryat Shmona, they announced the creation of four additional subcommittees: on security arrangements, on "a framework for mutual relations," on "withdrawal

of all foreign forces," and on "possible guarantees."

The subcommittees are to convene, starting this week, on an almost daily basis. There will be plenary sessions on Monday and Thursday at Haifa and Kiryat Shmona as hitherto, and subcommittee meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday, some of them at the Sharon Hotel in Herzliya.

Israeli sources stressed this "intensification" last week as proving that steady and solid progress is being made.

These comments were clearly directed for the attention of the U.S., and especially for special envoy Philip Habib and his aides who have spoken frequently to Israeli officials of Washington's desire to push things faster.

Just as Israel and Lebanon have "steering committees" comprising senior ministers and headed by Prime Minister Menachem Begin and President Amin Jemayel respectively, so does the U.S. now have its "steering committee," in the form of Ambassador Habib, competent to take policy decisions connected with the Israel-Lebanon-U.S. negotiations.

At the appropriate moment — he will judge when that moment is at hand — he will make his move towards Syria, seeking to draw Damascus into a Lebanon-withdrawal accord.

An Israeli negotiator said the U.S. team was "not pushing," but kept rather to the sidelines, enabling Israel and Lebanon to do most of the talking, but stepping in, as over the agenda dispute two weeks ago.

when there was deadlock.

Habib has spoken of a basic agreement being attainable in a matter of days. But Israeli negotiators, for all their gratification at the progress made last week, believe it will need months to hammer out an Israel-Lebanon agreement.

In New York the Security Council last week voted to keep UN troops in Lebanon for another six months, until July 19. The vote was 13-0 with two abstentions, by the Soviet Union and Poland.

UNIFIL — the UN Interim Force in Lebanon — was stationed there on the council's order in the spring of 1978 to oversee withdrawal of Israeli troops after Palestinian bases were attacked in the Litani operation.

In a dispatch from Beirut, the Associated Press reported last week that Lebanon has agreed to a U.S.-proposed compromise that would have Americans man electronic surveillance stations on Lebanon's central mountains and start a partial pullback of Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian forces next month, a government spokesman said.

The spokesman, who declined to be identified, said Lebanon's position was made clear in the lengthy talks Habib held on Friday night with Lebanese President Amin Jemayel and his senior government aides.

Israel wants to maintain three electronic spy stations in Lebanon.

"The Lebanese reject this and every other security arrangement that infringes on Lebanese sovereignty," the spokesman said.

"But we have told Ambassador Habib that we are willing to agree to security arrangements under multinational and United Nations control."

Syria, which has an estimated 30,000-man army stationed in northern and eastern Lebanon, has warned through its state-run media that Israeli surveillance stations in Lebanon would be considered a threat to Syria's security.

When Habib left Israel on Friday after intensive talks the feeling on the Israeli side was that areas of dispute with the U.S. had not been appreciably narrowed.

The Israeli sources seemed to doubt that the U.S. envoy would be able to sway the Lebanese leadership on the disputed points.

On UNIFIL, these sources said, Habib had been deliberately vague about the UN force's future role, but he certainly believed that the force should stay in the south to help the Lebanese army. Israel's view, the sources said, was that UNIFIL would hinder rather than help police the area and keep it free of terrorists.

Habib had cited Arab pressures on Lebanon to explain why it was hard for Beirut to agree to detailed "normalization" arrangements at this time.

Meanwhile, a soldier was wounded last week when an IDF convoy was ambushed by light arms fire north of Tyre in Southern Lebanon, in one of several incidents.

NEWS REPORT

Israel to help build up Zaire's army

Jerusalem Post Staff

Israelis in Zaire helping to build up that nation's army will not become involved in any fighting within its borders, nor will they become involved "in any war between states," Defence Minister Ariel Sharon declared on Israel Radio on his return from Zaire on Friday.

Sharon said that the agreement on Israeli military aid to Zaire to be submitted for cabinet approval, stipulated a "multi-year" programme. "The view is long-range, comprehensive," Sharon said. "It's more than a plan for setting up this or that unit. It's on the level of Zaire's national security."

Sharon spent four days in Zaire last week to conclude and sign a series of military accords.

The arms and equipment to be purchased by Zaire will "make a contribution to Israel's exports," Sharon added. He said that in the last year Israel has sold Zaire arms worth millions of dollars, and Zaire "has made its payments meticulously."

Asked whether it was desirable to base relations with another state mainly on defence aid, Sharon answered that although the "breakthrough" in renewing ties with Zaire was "in the defence



area," he expects aid to extend to "the areas of economy, diplomatic cooperation, and agriculture."

Sharon also said that "in time," other African states will renew their ties with Israel.

Zaire restored diplomatic relations with Israel last May, the first Black African country to do so since most broke off their relations following the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

'Peres would make way for Navon'

By SARAH HONIG
Post Political Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Labour Party insiders predicted at the weekend that chairman Shimon Peres would step down in favour of President Yitzhak Navon should Navon make a bid for the party leadership. Tensions are mounting in both the opposition Alignment and the ruling Likud as the date nears for Navon's February announcement of his future plans, amid reports he will not seek another presidential term.

The Likud says it will not try to dissuade Navon from leaving the presidency. Interior Minister Yosef Burg is mentioned as a possible successor.

Sources close to Peres told *The Jerusalem Post* that Peres might relinquishing the No. 1 position in the party an honourable way of stepping down, considering that his popularity is on a constant decline. According to some pundits, Peres has personally informed Navon that he will not stand in his way.

However, the sources added that Peres is still counting on one final chance to become prime minister without elections. His hope is that the Beirut massacre inquiry report will be so damaging for the government, that it will shake the coalition and force Prime Minister Menachem Begin out of office. The Likud's coalition partners, according to this scenario, would switch allegiance and team up with an alternative Alignment-led coalition headed by Peres.



Shimon Peres

This could occur, the sources say, even after Navon's expected announcement that he will not stand again for president, since the commission's report is also expected in February.

But other party sources say that should Navon not seek re-election as president it would constitute a potential return to politics even if he takes leave from public life.

It is not clear how former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin would react. His supporters are urging him to continue seeking the party's leadership no matter what. But some argue that Rabin is chiefly motivated by hostility to Peres, and that once Peres steps aside, he will do likewise.

Within Mapam, Labour's alignment partner, a Navon candidacy Menachem Begin out of office. The Likud's coalition partners, according to this scenario, would switch allegiance and team up with an alternative Alignment-led coalition headed by Peres.

Egyptian action in disputed border area brings complaint

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israeli-Egyptian relations appeared to take a turn for the worse last week when Israel lodged a formal complaint that two Egyptian tractors had entered no-man's land in the disputed Taba area south of Eilat on Thursday.

Egyptians and Israelis on the spot almost came to blows, and a flurry of messages between Tel Aviv and

Cairo set into motion an Egyptian withdrawal.

On Friday, the Egyptians began repairing the border fence which they had dismantled the previous day.

Israel and Egypt have been locked in disagreement over the future of Taba since the signing of the peace treaty. Israel has finished building a multi-million dollar hotel there, and two weeks ago Defence

Minister Moshe Dayan said earlier in the week that Israeli advisers will restructure the 20,000-strong Zairean army in a five-year plan.

Before the formal signing, Sharon had breakfast with Mobutu at his palace and discussed the prospect of the Zairean leader visiting Israel soon.

Sharon visited the mineral-rich Shaba area on the troubled Angolan border Wednesday, and the news media quoted Mobutu as saying that Israel had agreed to help set up a new division of the elite Camanola force based there.

The reporter said Shaba is seriously lacking in Camanola communications facilities. He also said the force is undermanned, with 5,000 troops patrolling a border of over 3,400 kilometres. The governor of Shaba met Sharon and is believed to have asked for help in developing the agricultural potential of the area, the reporter said.

Israel Television said last week that some of the weapons that Israel will sell to Zaire will be booty seized in Lebanon during the war, with the rest being of Israeli manufacture. TV also reported that some weapons will be given to Zaire free of charge.

Clearing the air



Ads for cigarettes and other tobacco products are being cleared from the air waves, under provisions of a bill that passed the Knesset this week.

Plugs for tobacco are to be banned entirely from radio, television and movie screens, public transportation and outdoor signs. Advertising in newspapers and magazines is subject to limits: ads may not "puff up" the virtues of smoking, and may not use the name or picture of any well-known personality. Persons below the age of 40, or those clad in a uniform, bathing suit or sports attire may not appear in such ads.

In permitted advertising, and on cigarette boxes themselves, a warning notice will advise smokers that "the Ministry of Health has determined that smoking is harmful to health."

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60277

The SAM-5s arrive in Syria

By HIRSH GOODMAN
Post Defence Correspondent
and agencies

U.S. intelligence officials said last week that Soviet-made SA-5 ground-to-air missiles are being "deployed" in Syria, thus putting most of Israeli air space within Syrian range.

The officials said that they were being deployed near Damascus and Homs, in north Lebanon.

This would be the first time the SA-5, the principal Soviet air-defence missile, had been deployed outside the Soviet Union, they added.

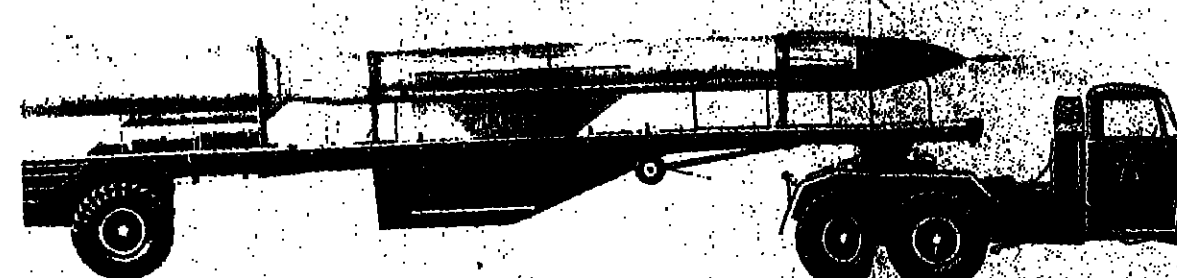
Israeli sources pointed out that while the SA-5, which have a range of around 300 kilometres and an

operational ceiling of around 100,000 feet, pose a threat to Israel, they pose a similar, if not greater threat to Iraq and Jordan. Both are in a virtual state of war with Syria and they lack Israel's technological expertise, and are thus not as well equipped to neutralize the missiles.

The SA-5s would also threaten American air traffic in the Mediterranean, having a range which almost covers Cyprus.

Israeli sources would not be specific on whether the missiles have already arrived in Syria (as reported in Washington) but said that they expected them to be operational within a very short time.

Responding to reports on the missiles earlier, Chief of Staff Rav-



SAM-5 long-range anti-aircraft missile

Aluf Rafael Eitan said that the missiles did not pose a threat to Israel, but that their presence in the region was of major political significance.

The SA-5s replace the 48 km range SA-6s that the Syrians deployed in the Bekaa Valley east of

Beirut. Israel destroyed those missiles during its military push into Lebanon last year.

The Soviet Union and Syria last week indirectly confirmed that Russia had supplied Syria with the missiles.

The official news agency Tass said that Syria had "taken steps to improve its anti-aircraft defences."

The report did not specify what weapons had been added to the Syrian arsenal.

U.S. 'over-reacting' to IDF-marine incidents

By HIRSH GOODMAN
Jerusalem Post Defence Correspondent

Defence Ministry officials in Jerusalem expressed "amazement" over the weekend at what they termed an over-reaction by U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, who said on Friday that he is "very worried" that incidents between U.S. Marines and IDF troops in Lebanon could "grow into something much more serious."

The officials said that it seems as if Weinberger was determined to make an issue over something which was marginal at best.

Weinberger disclosed that "there had been additional incidents since the episodes last week in which an

Israeli patrol twice was turned back by Marines at a checkpoint.

The Defence Department has said that during one of those January 17 encounters, a Marine was "nudged" by an Israeli jeep but the Marine did not suffer any injury.

"I'm very worried about these incidents, and they are continuing," Weinberger said in an interview.

The background to the tension lies in the fact that since the increase in incidents of terror against Israeli objectives on the main route to Beirut, the Israelis have been going on morning patrols using firearms. The Marines have complained that often Israeli bullets

have come perilously close to American positions.

Israeli officials said that the patrols would continue to use live ammunition since this was the only way of ensuring that convoys on the road would not be attacked. With the first light, Israeli armoured personnel carriers move down the road firing into the thick brush and destroyed structures along the route.

The IDF spokesman said that at no time have Israeli forces entered the territory controlled by the U.S. Marines, even though a number of times terrorists had fled to the Marine-controlled area after committing acts of sabotage.

Med-Dead Sea power plant is put on 'hold'

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Confusion in the world oil markets and the recent drop in oil prices has led the Energy Ministry to recommend that work on the hydro-electric power plant in the Mediterranean-Dead Sea project be put off for several years, while going ahead with the canal and tunnel system bringing water across the Negev.

The water is considered essential for cooling future power plants to be built in the area and for other energy and industrial projects.

Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i told *The Jerusalem Post* last week that the drop in world oil prices has forced a re-evaluation of the need for the 800 megawatt-capacity hydro-electric plant planned at the outlet of the 80-kilometre conduit at the Dead Sea.

Recent cost-benefit studies by the Med-Dead Company concluded that the energy benefits of the project will just cover its estimated \$1.3 billion cost, making it a break-even proposition. The power plant accounts for most of the total cost.

Estimates three years ago put the net economic benefits at \$550m., but this has been outdated by rises in the interest rates of the capital needed to invest in the project and a steady decline in the price of fuel to be saved by the hydro-electric plant. The plant was planned to start operating in the early 1990s.

"There is great uncertainty and confusion now in the world oil markets," Moda'i said, "and only God knows what direction developments will take. For that reason, we have decided to go ahead now with detailed planning for the canal, while waiting for several years to decide whether to begin work on the hydro-electric plant."

The recommendation was to be brought for approval this week

before the board of the Med-Dead Company. The results of the final economic and engineering feasibility studies are to be published this week, which coincides with the arrival here of 200 Jewish leaders from the U.S. and Canada for a week-long Canal Founders Conference of Israel Bonds.

Moda'i stressed that with or without the hydro-electric plant, it would be necessary to build a canal in the Negev to bring sea water to cool the coal-fired or nuclear-powered plants to be built in the area. The water could also be used, the minister said, for satellite projects such as solar energy ponds, industrial parks and the exploitation of shale oil deposits. No definite plans exist for these projects.

The hydro-electric plant was planned to generate electricity only at peak-consumption hours, thus replacing the heavy oil or gas used in the older thermal power plants. It was not intended to replace the building of another full-sized power plant.

In a lecture last week at the Oil and Energy Club, Moda'i said that Israel's energy development priorities for the next decade would be oil exploration, the building of a nuclear power plant and the conversion to coal.

Nuclear power will be given a big push in several weeks, the minister said, when the cabinet decides to start preparations for building a power plant largely from Israel's own resources. Israel's nuclear power plans have been stalled for the last seven years because supplier countries refuse to sell Israel a reactor unless it signs the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which would permit inspection of all Israel's nuclear facilities.



President Yitzhak Navon (left) talks with Prime Minister Menachem Begin who called on him on Friday to hear about the president's visit to the U.S. (Hurari)

ISRAELIS MEET WITH ARAFAT

(Continued from page 1.)

Lebanon war — would not support a criminal prosecution now, when there is no active war being waged.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said on Friday that the government must draft new legislation to prevent meetings between Israeli citizens and PLO members. If existing laws were not sufficient to take legal action against Avenry, Peled and Arnon, Shamir said, then new legislation should be introduced.

Shamir was addressing a meeting of veterans of the pre-state Stern group and Irgun underground organizations in Tel Aviv. He said that the three were "enemies of the state and of democracy" who had reached "the depths of depravity" by meeting with Arafat.

Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee chairman Eliyahu Ben-Elissar said on Friday that the damage done by Avenry, Peled and Arnon was in intimating that the PLO was amenable to co-existence.

Arafat's meetings with left-wing Israelis were criticized on Friday by the pro-Syria Saeka organization.

Saeka is one of several groups within the PLO to have recently criticized Arafat's policies.

The gulf between supporters and opponents of Arafat's diplomatic strategy widened earlier last week, with the publication in Tripoli of a communiqué signed by several radical PLO groups rejecting any prospect of a political settlement with Israel.

The communiqué, issued following a week-long meeting in Libya of leaders of Saeka and four other strongly pro-Syrian groups, rejected both U.S. President Ronald Reagan's Middle East peace initiative and Arafat's dialogue with Jordan's King Hussein. It affirmed the PLO's "adherence to the gun and armed struggle as the basic method for the liberation of Palestine," Libya's official JANA news agency is quoted as saying.

According to a Reuters report from Damascus, George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which attended the Tripoli meeting, did not sign the communiqué.

This omission, if accurate (the Associated Press, in a dispatch from Tripoli, reported that the PFLP did sign), could have a decisive bearing on next month's meeting in Algiers the PLO's future strategy is expected to be determined.

It was signed by Nayef Hawalmeh's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), Ahmad Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine — General Command (PFLP-GC), Saeka and the Popular Struggle Front (PSF).

The PFLP is the most significant grouping in the PLO after Arafat's own mainline Fatah, and should it fail to line up with the other radicals against Arafat at the PNC meeting, the latter's diplomatic strategy is likely to gain massive endorsement.

STOCKS FERMENT

ject for which it raised capital is started.

The Treasury will not approve the creation of new "closed" mutual funds, funds selling only a limited number of units closed to public investment.

This last measure would affect not only mutual funds, but every company going to the public to raise funds. Today there is no control on the use of capital raised by companies and the Treasury feels that much of it in fact returns to the exchange instead of going to the originally stated investment purposes.

The Treasury officials stressed that the measures announced were taken to protect the small investor and to return the mutual funds to their proper role as an instrument of long-term savings and "solid" investment.

The ministry favours the existence of mutual funds, but only as an instrument for savings by small investors, the officials reiterated. Instead, they said, the funds had become another speculative element in the stock market and the Treasury had to take some measures to correct their performance, which was very far from satisfactory.

Sources at the Treasury last week told *The Jerusalem Post* that the initiative for the announcement came from Aridor.

The sources concede that a contributing factor to Aridor's timing is the large monetary injection due to take place during the coming weeks as a result of increased wages to be paid in February and the maturation of government bonds and several savings plans schemes.

The Treasury wants most of these new sums to go into long-run savings, preferably in the new savings schemes which have been recently approved by the Knesset Finance Committee. The ministry's announcement created a suitable climate for this end, the sources said.

However, in addition to this factor, the sources said, one has to take into account that Aridor has silently been reforming the capital market in accordance with his own views of minimal government intervention and the financing of investment by long-term private savings being channelled into the capital market by established financial institutions.

The sources noted that, among the steps which the Treasury has initiated are the new law for taxation under inflationary conditions, which encourages companies to invest in equipment instead of speculating in the stock exchange; the imposition of a 2 per cent levy on the sale of shares, which encourages long-term holding of

securities and discourages speculation; and the 2 per cent tax on oversubscription to new share issues.

In addition, the Treasury is implementing a reform in the mortgages market, which will remove the government from this market and will turn the role of financier of housing mortgages over to commercial banks, which will get the needed resources from bonds sold to pension funds.

Thus the measures announced last week should be seen as the latest in a series of steps taken by the Treasury designed to transform the country's capital market.

The sources said that the requirement of every company issuing new shares to invest them in government bonds until the start of the investment project for which the funds were raised, would encourage them to start the projects instead of speculating in the stock exchange.

Economic observers in Jerusalem pointed out that another goal of the Treasury's announcement could have been to cool the securities market, which lately was viewed by more than one senior Treasury official as a source of inflationary pressure.

The observers added that, despite the Treasury's wishes, some of the sums which will reach the economy

during next month may find their way to the goods market, putting additional pressure on their prices, or encouraging imports. This may be the result of discouraging investment in the stock exchange.

Alternatively the funds being injected into the economy and those going out from the stock exchange may be channelled by the public towards the purchase of foreign currency, which may push the rate of exchange beyond the 5 per cent per month which the Treasury has declared to be its target rate of devaluation.

The Treasury's announcement came two weeks after criticism voiced by Tel Aviv Stock Exchange chairman Meir Heth, who resigned in protest against (among other things) the lack of control on portfolio management, inadequate criteria for approving new share issues, and what he called the "too aggressive policies" of the mutual funds.

Heth later withdrew his resignation, after the commercial banks and the rest of the exchange executive decided to implement some of the measures he proposed.

Treasury sources said the Treasury's intention was to avoid any irresponsible leak about the planned reforms, which would have created a panic in the stock exchange. Thus, the ministry preferred to give a detailed account of its intentions through the media.

Nablus unrest

Security forces detained a young physics lecturer at An-Najah university in Nablus on Friday and imposed a curfew on the town's market on Saturday during unrest sparked by the effective closure of the university for almost two weeks.

A university spokesman said the army is still holding nine members of the student council who were detained 13 days earlier following a rally at the campus to mark the anniversary of the founding of the Fatah organization. He also complained that daily army roadblocks around the university have effectively prevented faculty and students from attending classes, and that the university has for all practical purposes been closed since then.

An official of the Judea and Samaria civil administration has dismissed the allegation as "untrue," and said that the roadblocks around the university are to verify whether foreign teachers hold work permits and, in the wake of the Fatah rally, to check that only registered students enter the campus.

Before being granted a work permit by the Israeli authorities foreign lecturers must affirm that they will not support the PLO terrorist movement.

CONTEXT

EDITORIAL COMMENT, SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 1983

Aridor steps in

ONLY a few weeks ago the common assumption in the country was that the Treasury would refrain from taking any decisive steps to tame Israel's frenzied stock market. It was held that playing the market had become such a broad-based, consuming and profitable passion among the public as to deter the Treasury from risking the political fall out that would follow upon any imposed curbs.

On Thursday morning, Mr. Aridor confounded all. He let it be known that the Treasury was preparing legislation to regulate the activities of mutual funds — main forces in the market. The impact was immediate. Shares plunged in panic selling. Presumably, the panic will abate, as investors become accustomed to the new rules of the game that are in the offing. Those rules, which after submission by the Treasury must obtain Knesset approval, are designed to limit the manipulative powers of the funds and the banks, protect the small investor, and up-grade once again the attraction of less liquid forms of savings, thus dampening the inflationary effect of the runaway stock market.

For those who had become addicted to the casino features of the stock market, the Treasury's new measures will come as a bitter disappointment. But those concerned about the national interest must welcome Mr. Aridor's steps and praise him for his courage.

New bowling club opens in Netanya

TEL AVIV. — The Netanya Lawn Bowls Club was launched last week with the inauguration of an international standard green at the Wingate Institute for physical education. The club is already affiliated to the Israel Bowls Association, which was founded by Max Spitz in the mid-1950s.

It is the country's sixth bowling club and seventh green since the first was built in Ramat Gan 30 years ago. A sign of the growing popularity of the game is that the Netanya green is the third to be completed in the past 18 months, following the opening of those at Kfar Hamaccabiah, and Ra'anana during 1981.

The Netanya club so far has 100 men and women members, including some dozen subras or veteran Israelis. The remainder are mainly settlers from South Africa and other English-speaking countries.

Terrorists arrested for TA bus attack

Jerusalem Post Staff
TEL AVIV. — The security forces have arrested members of an Egyptian-based terrorist group who carried out a recent grenade attack on a bus in Tel Aviv, the IDF spokesman said on Friday.

The spokesman said that the terrorists lived in the villages of Bir El-Barnh and Marazi, in the Gaza Strip.

One of them told security officers that they belonged to Fatah and that their commanders were based in Egypt.

In the bus attack two weeks ago, 12 persons were wounded when a grenade smashed through the windshield and exploded in the bus.

The IDF said that one of the detained men confessed to a previous grenade attack in the Gaza Strip last November which killed one Arab and wounded four others.

Israel in the past has accused Egypt of failing to prevent Palestinian terrorists from infiltrating the Gaza Strip from its territory.

THE WEATHER

	Saturday's	Sunday's
Jerusalem	Min-Max	Min-Max
Nahariya	10-18	14
Tiberias	5-17	13
Tel Aviv	17-22	18
Yotvata	5-22	18

The temperature dropped sharply on Sunday however, and snow was predicted for some areas.

No soccer game

There was no first division soccer at the weekend because 18 players from various squads left for Costa Rica for a preliminary round of the Youth World Cup.

From the Hebrew papers

Ha'aretz (Independent), commenting on the latest reports of Soviet delivery of SAM-5s to Syria, says that although these missiles are by nature defensive weapons, they still comprise a threat to any air force operating within a radius of 250 kilometres.

The paper is encouraged by reports that President Reagan has approved U.S.-Israeli intelligence cooperation on the matter, which should "lessen the damage somewhat."

"The impression...that the USSR is determined to support Syria in the foreseeable future has been given further confirmation," the paper concludes, "so the problem of the SAM-5 missiles is not just a professional military problem, but a broad security and diplomatic problem."

Davar (Histadrut) is perturbed that after initial reports were released concerning preparation for the missiles, "official statements made by Israel's defence minister and the chief of staff created a

rather restrained impression, as if this were just one more fairly outdated weapons system about which one should not get too upset. One could even feel that Israel's main concern was for...the U.S., whose planes on board its (Mediterranean) Sixth Fleet ships are liable to be in striking range of the SAM-5s. But...the Americans feel that this threat is principally directed against the Israeli Air Force."

The paper expresses concern that the "delicate balance" between the two superpowers and their clients in the region "is liable to be undermined if Israel reacts to a downing of its planes by Soviet technicians."

Ha'aretz (NRP) also strongly rejects the "pacifying assessments" offered by Israeli officials after the initial reports about the SAM-5s. Israel cannot sail out of missile range, like the Sixth Fleet. The paper counsels against panic, but it also warns against underestimating "the great change now wrought in the Middle East military map."

Maccabi hoopsters lose to Italians

Maccabi Tel Aviv were truly up against it in a small north Italian town last week as the European basketball champions Ford Cantu brushed aside the Israeli challenge with a convincing 95-89 victory in a tremendous European basketball Cup final pool match.

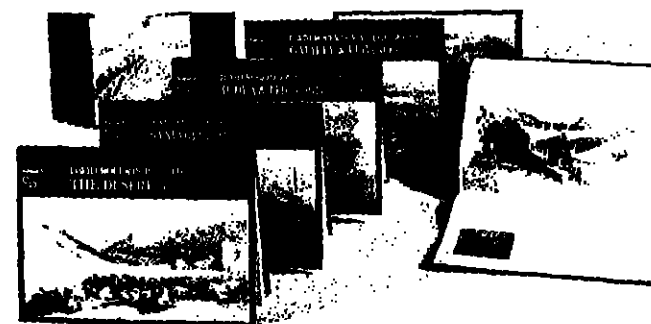
The defeat by Ford Cantu means that Maccabi Tel Aviv's basketball team face a tough task if they are to make it to the finals of the European Cup. Despite the problems,

they should succeed. If the competition continues as projected, the indications are that they and Ford Cantu will meet in the final as they did last year.

STANDINGS

	P	W	L	for	pts.
Ford Cantu	4	4	0	33.3	24
Maccabi TA	4	3	1	24.4	27
CSKA Moscow	5	2	3	23.3	14
Chimie Vilna	4	2	2	22.2	14
Real Madrid	4	2	2	24.5	16
Chimie Zagreb	4	1	3	20.4	15

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MAJOR RABBI HAROLD H. GORDON MEMORIALIZED WITH MDA LIFE SAVING AMBULANCE



New York, N.Y.: Messrs. Julius Levine and J.S. Needleman, executors of the estate of Rabbi Harold H. Gordon, recently presented a fully equipped ambulance to Magen David Adom (MDA) Israel's official Red Cross Society, in memory of Major Rabbi Harold H. Gordon, known also as "The Flying Chaplain." At the dedication, from left to right, are Mr. Julius Levine, Mr. N.S. Needleman, Mr. David Sidman, ARMDI National Director and Rabbi Paul Hail, Executive Director of the New York Board of Rabbis.

In presenting Messrs. Levine and Needleman with the ARMDI Pikuach Nefesh Award, Mr. Sidman said: "What a fitting tribute this is to an outstanding Rabbi whose life was dedicated to the love of humanity and Israel. By presenting the people of Israel with this life giving ambulance, Rabbi Gordon's memory will forever be perpetuated in those lives saved by this vehicle of mercy."

American Red Magen David for Israel, (ARMDI), sole U.S. support of Magen David Adom, supplies Ambulances, Mobile Intensive Care Ambulances, Emergency Medical Equipment and Tents to MDA in Israel. ARMDI National Headquarters, 888 Seventh Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10106. 212-767-1827.

(Continued)

Discharged soldiers prefer IS9,000 dole to work paying only IS900 more

Record number of unemployed refuse job offers

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
The tougher demands placed on job-seekers by the Employment Service has led to a dramatic jump in the number of Israelis refusing to take the jobs offered, thus increasing the number of Arabs from the administered territories brought in to do the work instead.

Service director Baruch Haklai last week told *The Jerusalem Post* that a record 3,200 Israelis, most of them young and unskilled, turned down jobs offered them by the service last month. This compares to about 2,000 job-refusers in December 1981, and less than half that at

the end of 1980.

Last month the number of Arabs from the territories brought in by the service to fill jobs available in Israel reached an all-time high of over 59,000, compared to 55,600 in December 1981. Another 16,000 workers from the territories hold jobs in Israel each month through unofficial channels.

Haklai said that during the past year the service has been applying more stringent criteria to job-seekers in an effort to direct more workers to manual jobs in industry and construction. Previously, applicants could claim skilled status on

the basis of work experience. Now they need either a certificate or proof that they have attended a regular training course.

In addition, holders of a *bagrut* (matriculation) certificate are now referred to manual labour, in contrast to previous practice.

This has increased the pool of those available for low-skilled, low-paying jobs, which are in relatively plentiful supply. But it has increased the refusal rate, Haklai said, since an increasing number of young people don't want to get their hands dirty. "They'd rather be bank clerks," he said.

Haklai added that discharged soldiers who can't find work get IS9,000 (\$257) a month on the dole. The unofficial "minimum wage" set by the employers and the Histadrut, however, is only IS9,900 per month — so many prefer the dole to manual labour.

Haklai said that a number of proposals to increase incentives for discharged soldiers and other young people to work in industry and construction have passed their first reading in the Knesset. They are now awaiting further discussion in the Knesset Labour and Social Affairs Committee.

BRIEFLY

Fetus saved in womb

AFULA. — A fetus suffering from a serious urinary-tract defect was operated on successfully while still in the womb, a Kupat Holim spokeswoman said last week. The operation, the first of its kind in Israel, was performed by a team of surgeons in the maternity and gynecological department of Afula Hospital.

The operation was performed shortly after the mother, in her seventh month of pregnancy, was given an ultrasound scan which revealed that there was no fluid in the amniotic sac.

Agency budget at \$460m.

Jewish Agency Chairman Arye Dulzin last week announced that the agency budget for 1983/84 will be \$460 million, including \$60m. for Project Renewal.

Agency department heads were told in Jerusalem that the budget will be submitted to the board of governors for final approval next month.

This is the first time, Dulzin said, that the Agency's budget has been balanced — a result of the decision not to borrow money to cover deficits.

It was also announced that the World Zionist Organization budget for 1983/84 will be \$60m.

Friend of Israel dies

Gaullist Deputy Jacques Mercier, the advocate who attempted to defend Israel agent Eli Cohen in Damascus in 1965, died last week in France at the age of 63.

Mercier was a friend of Israel who defended Jews in Arab lands, worked closely with the Mossad and was a member of the International Committee for Jews in Arab Lands and of the French-Israel Friendship Society.

In May 1965, Mercier went to Damascus together with another French lawyer, Batonnier Arrighi, to defend Eli Cohen. They were not allowed to meet their client. Mercier was still negotiating with the Syrians when through his hotel window he saw Eli Cohen's body hanging on a gallows in Damascus's Central Square.

Arab-Jewish groups

NAZARETH. — Ten new societies for fostering relations between Jews and Arabs were set up in 1982, according to a source in the office of the prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs.

The source said last week there are now 25 societies which have several thousand members, including clergymen, chairmen of Arab local councils, teachers and workers representatives.

Crisis for tour guides

Tourism Minister Avraham Shafir has agreed to cancel courses for guides next year so as to aid existing guides who are finding it increasingly difficult to find work, a source in the guides association told *The Jerusalem Post* last week.

The source pointed out that since 1975 some 150 to 200 guides have graduated the course every year. But the number of tourists has dropped this year and, at the same time, because of an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Tourism, Religious Affairs and Foreign Ministries, many of the groups of that faith are led by their parish priests, using no local guide.

Falashas reported to be living well in Ethiopia

By AARON SITTNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Recent reports of anti-Semitism in Ethiopia and persecution of its Falasha community were challenged last week by four Israeli community workers who returned earlier in the week from a visit to Falasha villages.

Two of the workers reported on their visit at a meeting with reporters in Jerusalem. The meeting was called by the Israel branch of the World Jewish Congress, under whose auspices the group went to Ethiopia.

The visit was coordinated with the Ethiopian State Tourist Corporation, which provided the Israelis with an escort.

One of the Israelis, who would give only the name Ora, said the group spent 10 days touring four Falasha concentrations — Gondar, Ambover, Wallaca and Behadar.

"We were permitted to meet freely with the Falashas," Ora said. "We found no signs of hunger or extreme poverty, no manifestations of anti-Semitism, and we heard nothing about indiscriminate torture or mass murders."

However, the Israelis were told that 20 Falashas — 19 men and a woman — are being held on charges of trying to leave the country illegally. According to Ora, their arrest had nothing to do with their religious affiliation.

She said all Ethiopians, regardless

of creed, are forbidden to emigrate or even leave their country temporarily, except to receive medical treatment unavailable locally, to pursue a higher education or for business.

In some of their encounters with Falashas, the Israelis were handed letters by persons with relatives in Israel, expressing the wish to join their families here.

In Ambover, they found a modern medical clinic established by ORT (outlawed and expelled about 18 months ago) as well as a house of worship and schools built by that organization.

The religious services in Ambover were conducted by a priest known as a *kex* and the liturgy was

accompanied by the beating of a drum. Worshippers had to remove their shoes before entering the synagogue. The service contained Hebrew words, the Israelis reported.

The economic state of the Falashas was said to be "reasonable", with each family farming the same size tract of land as given to other Ethiopians after the revolution.

The Israelis were told that "Falashas are genuine Ethiopians, just as we are," Ora said.

In Gondar, a regional capital city, Falashas were encountered among civil service employees in government offices.



Shcharansky urged to end strike

The Chief Rabbi last week called on Prisoner of Zion Anatoly Shcharansky to end his four-month hunger strike, which, they said, is endangering his life and "is contrary to the Halacha (Jewish law) and the Torah."

Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef and Shlomo Goren also called on all Jews in Israel and abroad to pray in the coming Sabbath for Shcharansky's health and release.

Pupils at the Pelech religious high school for girls in Jerusalem held a birthday party for Shcharansky, who was 35 last week.

Truck hits mine

KEAR SAVA. — The driver of a pick-up truck was slightly injured when the vehicle went over a mine in a parking lot near the Kfar Sava-Kalkiya road (north of Tel Aviv) last week.

The parking lot is used by the Civil Defence for its vehicles.

Dozens of Arabs were detained but later released.

Epiphany at Jordan River site

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

For the first time since 1967 the Greek Orthodox celebration of Epiphany, commemorating the baptism of Jesus, was observed by pilgrims at the traditional site at the Jordan River.

The spot, which is just across the river from Jordanian territory, is in a security area closed to civilians. Last year, the civil administration of Judea and Samaria allowed the Greek patriarch and a small group of clergy to perform the rites there. This year several hundreds of Christian pilgrims from a variety of sects joined the clerics.

The ceremony, which began in

the Monastery of St. John, southeast of Jericho, continued down to the Jordan itself, despite heavy rainfall which turned much of the approach into a sea of mud. Clinging perilously to shrubs and reeds, many of the faithful went down to the river to fill containers and jars with Jordan water.

Following the rites, Patriarch Diodoros I said they had prayed "with tears in our eyes for peace in this land." He expressed his gratitude to the civil administration for help in arranging the observance of the ceremony.

Diodoros said that the rain had been sent by God to test the faithful.

French war crimes charge

A court in Bordeaux, France, last week formally charged former French budget minister Maurice Papon with crimes against humanity in connection with the arrest and deportation of French Jews during the Nazi occupation of France, Papon's lawyer said.

Papon, 72, was accused of participating in the deportation of 1,690 Jews in southwest France from 1942 until the liberation in 1944 while he was administrative director of the French Department of the Gironde.

The formal charges were lodged after 10 civil suits were filed in 1981 and 1982 by lawyers representing the families of Jewish deportees.

Those suits stemmed in part from stories published 20 months ago by the weekly *Le Canard Enchaîné*, including photostats of documents allegedly implicating Papon in the round-up of Jews by the war-time Vichy collaboration government.

Papon charged that the accusations were drummed up just before the 1981 presidential elections to embarrass then-president Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, in whose cabinet he served. He claimed the suits were filed to embarrass the French right in connection with the upcoming

March nationwide municipal elections.

He pointed out that a special "jury of honour" made up of resistance activists had cleared him of all charges shortly after the war, and that resistance leader Gen. Charles de Gaulle appointed him head of the Paris police when De Gaulle became president.

In Nuremberg, Germany, the city prosecutor completed investigations last week into the murders of a Jewish publisher and his woman companion, charging a neo-Nazi with the double murder and his woman friend with having assisted him.

Karl-Heinz Hoffmann, 45, the leader of the banned military "sports group" that bore his name, was charged with having shot and killed with four bullets each, Shlomo Lewin, 69, and Frieda Poeschke, 57, the widow of a former Nuremberg mayor, on the evening of December 19, 1980, a spokesman for this city's legal authorities said.

Franziska Birkmann, 36, Hoffmann's woman friend, was charged with having assisted him in the murders. A pair of sunglasses found near the scene of the crime led police to Birkmann.

(Compiled from Agency Reports)

21% of Israelis have demonstrated

RAMAT GAN. — Twenty-one per cent of Israelis have taken part in some form of demonstration, according to a study by Prof. Shmuel Lehman of Bar-Ilan University. The equivalent figure for the U.S. is 11 per cent.

Reviewing the history of demonstrations in this country between 1950 and 1980, Lehman

found that the police were most lenient in cases of religious demonstrations, particularly when both the National Religious Party and Agudat Yisrael were part of the ruling coalition.

He said 38.5 per cent of demonstrations are connected with social issues, 30 per cent are religious, 20 per cent are economic and 15 per cent are political.



Women soldiers serving with the police have been issued snow suits to counter the cold while patrolling the buses, streets and markets of Jerusalem. The capital last week was hit by several days of snow, rain, hail, heavy winds and freezing temperatures. The second snowfall of the year paralyzed parts of the city with power failures and breakdowns in the telephone system. Snow also fell in parts of the North; and rainfall in the Negev desert reached a record — 162mm so far this winter.

(Eran Shenker)

Over-education 'danger'

Jerusalem Post Reporter
HAIFA. — Israel is on the way to "total academization" which raised more questions for the education system than there are answers for, Hebrew University professor Yehoshua Prawer said here last week.

Speaking at a ceremony in Haifa University, where 533 disadvantaged and otherwise deserving students were awarded stipends from endowment funds totalling IS4 million, Prawer claimed that 65 per cent of all high school graduates go to university and another 20 per cent attend teachers' seminaries. At the same time the number of high

school students had jumped by 50 per cent during the past several years, he said.

As a result, forecasts predict that the number of freshmen in the country's universities will go up to 14,000 within two years and rise to 20,000 by 1990.

"I admit that we are a little out of our depth on the issue, while higher education is proliferating at a speed beyond our means," Prawer said.

He asked educators to ponder "the clash between the legitimate ambition to assist school children who need special care and the status of the universities which are achievement-oriented."



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Peace Now demonstrators 'endanger society'

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN

Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter
Interior Minister Yosef Burg said last week that the Sabbath demonstration by Peace Now at Efrat in the Eziyon Bloc, and the recent incident at Kfar Shalem in which residents of the Tel Aviv slum resisted the demolition of an illegal structure, were "warning signs" to all. (Efrat is one of the new towns being built in Judea and Samaria.)

Replying to three motions for the agenda on the Peace Now demonstration, Burg also said that when demonstrators twice in one month used the word "Nazis" against their opponents, something had gone rotten in Israeli society. "This goes far beyond the political debate," Burg said. "Here the foundations of our society are in danger."

Most of Burg's speech was delivered without interruption unlike that of Hanan Porat (Tehiya), who preceded him and who was systematically heckled by Alignment members.

But towards the end of the minister's speech — and only a moment after he warned against "the verbal violence that easily turns into physical violence" — an interjection by Ya'ir Tsaban (Alignment-Mizrahi) touched off a protracted shouting match between the Likud

and the Alignment, during which Speaker Menachem Savidor repeatedly called Roni Milo (Likud-Herut) to order.

Burg said that according to "estimates in my possession," the number of demonstrators had been about 700 — "but the press doubled and trebled that."

He said the decision to build Efrat had been taken by an Alignment government, and that the Likud had decided on the implementations.

Referring to the fact that activists from disadvantaged neighbourhoods joined the Peace Now demonstration at Efrat, Burg denounced the "cynical exploitation" of the distress of the run-down neighbourhoods.

He addressed a rhetorical question to "the professors whose hearts had led them to the Sabbath" to the site of a *hesder* yeshiva whose students do military service: What had they ever done to remedy the distress of the poor?

Yigal Cohen (Likud) said the demonstration had constituted "sticking a dagger into the nation's heart, its goals, its values, and its national consensus."

Porat's speech attracted special interest, as he is one of the founders of rebuilt Kfar Eziyon. He said that Peace Now should know that their actions served as an example to the Arabs.

"If Jews break into the houses of their fellow-Jews in Gush Etzion and Hebron, why should the Arabs in nearby villages not do the same? Why shouldn't they shatter automobile windshields and uproot orchards?"

Burg moved that the Knesset hold a full debate on the motions, and the Alignment, despite the hostility some of their members had shown during the speeches of Porat and Burg — supported him.

Faction members later explained that they wanted further opportunity to express their view on the Peace Now demonstration.

A spokesman for Peace Now last week called on MKs to concentrate not on their demonstration but on the government's settlement policy which he said harmed the peace process.

Those who blame the movement for damage in Efrat, the spokesman said, ignore their own damage in Yamit. The movement alleged that those who caused damage, are not the movement's members, nor activists from disadvantaged neighbourhoods, but "provocateurs."

Avraham Burg, the minister's son, was a leading speaker at the demonstration at Efrat. He arrived with a group of religious "doves" (after the Sabbath).

What the president found in America

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

President Yitzhak Navon, returning home last week from a 10-day visit to the U.S., said he had felt no form of pressure on Israel in his talks with President Ronald Reagan. But he added: "The president expressed his point of view, and said he would wish for greater momentum in the peace process."

Reagan, said Navon, is convinced that his September 1982 peace plan would not only bring peace to the region but is also good for Israel. "He impressed me as an open man and a friend of Israel," said Navon, flanked by his wife Ofra, who accompanied him on the trip.

Navon also spoke about Diaspora Jewish perceptions of Israel. "We in Israel don't realize how painful it is for Jews abroad to hear about the inter-communal tension here. Reports of the ethnic gap and of swastika-daubing make a great impact on the Jews there, who fear for the social structure of Israel," Navon said at the press conference at the airport.

The Navons were welcomed by an official state ceremony complete with a 21-gun salute, guard of honour and red carpet.

The president said that some U.S. Jews, especially academics, had criticized Israel about social issues during their meetings with him. More attention should be devoted to these critical circles, Navon said, although the overall attitude to Israel is supportive.

PLO prisoners well-treated

Jerusalem Post Staff

TEL AVIV. — A French doctor who visited the Israeli-controlled Ansar prison camp in Southern Lebanon said last week he found the Palestinian prisoners to be in good condition.

Israel Radio said that Dr. Bernard Kushnir, president of an organization called Doctors of the World, and another French member of the organization visited the camp with the permission of the Israeli authorities to investigate rumours of ill treatment and torture.

The camp was set up during the Lebanon war and is said by the military command to hold about 5,000 prisoners, following the release of about 3,000 detainees who were found not to be a security risk.

Dr. Kushnir said he freely selected a number of prisoners for examination and found them to be in good condition. "The main regulations of the Geneva Convention are more or less well followed," he said.

Asked about the purpose of the visit, a Finance Ministry source in Jerusalem said that it is in the framework of the general economic cooperation agreement between the two countries, signed by former finance minister Simha Ehrlich in 1978.

Aridor for S. Africa

Finance Minister Yoram Aridor will visit South Africa on February 9, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned.

Asked about the purpose of the visit, a Finance Ministry source in Jerusalem said that it is in the framework of the general economic cooperation agreement between the two countries, signed by former finance minister Simha Ehrlich in 1978.

El Al flies again

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — "We're back in the air — for now," a senior El Al official said last week, after the national airline's pilots voted to return to work.

The pilots decided to end the latest work dispute despite their objections to the new work agreement which they said was imposed upon them by the Histadrut labour federation.

Finance Minister Yoram Aridor intervened when the negotiations between the pilots and the Histadrut deadlocked. Aridor asked the pilots to accept the work agreement "under protest" and to continue their fight against it in legal ways.

The airline has been virtually grounded for some four months after a long series of labour disputes. The government subsequently decided to put El Al into receivership, and it was only in recent days that accord was reached between management and workers, enabling the airline to resume operations.

Because of the heavy losses the company has suffered, the Knesset Finance Committee last week approved an additional \$15 million guarantee for El Al, bringing the total guarantees to \$107 million out of a requested \$146m.

The only problem still unresolved between the pilots and management is over firing of 21 pilots and severance pay. Three hundred and fifty other El Al workers were to receive dismissal notices this week as part of management's effort to streamline operations. El Al currently has 5,000 employees.

The company is also launching a new sales campaign, offering bargain flights.

The chairman of the Travel and Tourist Agents Association, Eli Blau, blasted El Al for its low-fare promotion campaign, claiming that such practices undermine the credibility of airlines and travel agents alike. He said he was referring not only to El Al's new \$499 return fare from New York, but also to its new promotional fares to Europe, due to be announced.

"If El Al can claim that this price covers the flight cost, how do we explain to our clients that last year the cheapest tickets on that route cost no less than \$700, or that in one month's time, when the promotion is over, the cheapest ticket will cost \$799," Blau said. He added that El Al is not the only airline on that route, and that drastically lowered prices might lead foreign airlines to leave this market altogether.

Late in the week, El Al announced that six of its offices in Europe are to be closed in the next few days and dozens of their Israeli workers dismissed.

The closing of the offices — in Brussels, Copenhagen, Marseilles, Bucharest, Munich and Lisbon — will save an estimated \$550,000 annually. El Al's saving and efficiency committee intends to launch additional programmes in the next few days to cut the airline's expenses further.

President Yitzhak Navon, at podium, alongside Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren and Prime Minister Menachem Begin, paid homage last week to the 35 Hebrew University students who were massacred in 1948 on their way to help defend Gush Etzion, south of Jerusalem. (Zoom 77)

Arab and Jewish leaders to fight extremism

By YOEL DAR
Jerusalem Post Reporter

NAZARETH. — For the first time, Jewish and Arab leaders in the North decided last week to fight extreme nationalist feelings in their communities. Afula Mayor Eli Ovadia, who organized the meeting in Afula of Mayors and local-council chairmen, expressed his concern over the "growing polarization among Arabs and Jews."

Shfarim Mayor Ibrahim Nimr Hussein, who is also national chairman of the Association of Arab Local Councils, said there is still time to improve relations between the two peoples.

Nazareth Mayor and Democratic Front for Peace and Equality Knesset Member Tewfik Zayad said that Israeli Arabs are an inseparable part of the state. He called on the meeting to help Arabs get their full rights as citizens.

Menuhem Ariav, chairman of the Association of Galilee Jewish Settlements and mayor of Upper Nazareth, said that more than 1,400 Arabs work in the city, some of them in responsible positions in their factories. But he complained that no Arab leader has condemned the irresponsible elements who came to the fore during demonstrations on September 22 against the Beirut massacres.

Relations between Jews and Arabs in Galilee have deteriorated since then, *The Jerusalem Post* learns. Thousands of young Arabs lowered the state flag and raised Palestinian flags during the demonstrations, blocked roads and stoned passing vehicles. Since then, the number of Jewish shoppers in Nazareth has dropped sharply, and Arabs hesitate to visit Upper Nazareth (the newer Jewish area) out of fear that Jewish extremists will beat or insult them.

Navon is 'popular choice' as Labour Party leader

President Yitzhak Navon is the most popular choice as leader of the Labour Alignment, well ahead of rivals Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin, according to the latest *Jerusalem Post* poll, conducted by the Modi'in Ezrahi Research Institute. But in the choice for premiership, Menachem Begin appears to be increasing his big lead over other contenders, with Navon in second place.

Q. Who is best suited to be premier?

	Jan. 83	Oct. 82	Sept. 82	Aug. 82
Menachem Begin	45.9	44.8	42.9	54.0
Yitzhak Navon	17.8	18.4	14.1	4.4
Yitzhak Rabin	8.9	11.1	11.9	14.2
Shimon Peres	2.7	3.3	4.7	3.4
Ezer Weizman	1.9	2.3	1.6	1.5
Ariel Sharon	0.6	0.8	1.7	1.1
Others	2.3	2.3	1.7	2.6
Undecided	19.9	17.0	21.4	18.8

Q. Who is best suited to be the leader of the Labour Alignment?

	All Respondents	Labour Voters	Likud Voters
Yitzhak Navon	40.8	48.9	30.3
Yitzhak Rabin	30.1	27.8	39.9
Shimon Peres	4.6	9.5	4.1
Others	2.1	2.8	1.2
Undecided	22.4	11.0	24.5

President not to seek second term

Jerusalem Post Reporter

President Yitzhak Navon is expected to announce within a fortnight that he will not seek a second term as president. His five-year term expires in May. The President's announcement will probably be made on the first or second day of February, it is reliably learned.

Navon is expected to state that he intends to devote the next few months to writing and that he will refrain from engaging in any political activities during that period. Although there are no regulations about the length of time during which a retired president should stay out of politics, it is reliably learned that Navon intends

to observe a self-imposed "freeze" on political activities for a period of at least 3-4 months, if not more.

Supporters of Navon's candidacy for the premiership on behalf of the Labour Alignment, or possibly on behalf of an even broader political grouping, were pleased last week with the prospect that the outgoing president would be available for political activity towards the end of this year.

They thought that Navon should in any case not become involved in petty party politics and should certainly not announce his political availability prematurely, at a time when Knesset elections are not in the offing.

Massacre probe winds up

By DAVID RICHARDSON
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Kahan commission last week completed its hearings and retired to write its findings on the inquiry into the massacre of Palestinians at the refugee camps of Sabra and Shatilla near Beirut last September. These are expected to be published in the middle of next month.

The commission was appointed by the government following the Phalange massacre after the assassination of the Lebanese president-elect Bashir Jemayel.

Last week's session which was closed to the press was devoted to

the summations of lawyers representing six of the nine people warned last November that they might be harmed by the commission's investigation or its findings.

Prime Minister Menachem Begin, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and the chief of military intelligence Aluf Yehoshua Saguy did not present oral summations to the commission.

The central questions the commission has been investigating are:

- Who took the original decision to allow the Phalange into the camps?
- What were, and what ought to have been, the expectations of Defence Minister Ariel Sharon and the Chief of Staff Rav-Aluf Rafael Eitan of Phalange behaviour in the camps after they had approved the plan to allow them in? What were and what should have been the concerns of Begin and the cabinet when they were told that the Phalange were in the camps on Thursday evening, September 16?

- Were the chief of army intelligence and the director of the Mossad told of these plans, and did they see fit to discuss the implications and appraise the cabinet or their civilian superiors?
- When were the first indications of Phalange "irregularities" in the camps received, by whom and what was done to order them out as quickly as possible?

Eitan hardline alleged

By DAVID RICHARDSON
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Two documents submitted to the Central Command military court here last week suggest that Chief of Staff Rav-Aluf Rafael Eitan gave orders to indiscriminately harass the Arab population in the West Bank to curb disturbances in the area last spring and instructed the military courts in the area to hand down stiffer sentences on wrong-doers.

If the military prosecutor's office decides to challenge the documents, the court will summon Eitan to testify.

The documents were submitted by one of the defence advocates at the trial of an IDF major and six soldiers accused of assaulting and mistreating Arab students detained at the Hebron Islamic University as well as other Arabs during several days of disturbances in the Hebron area last March.

Eitan issued a memorandum last April recommending that the Israel Defence Forces, the General Security Service and the Coordinator of Activities in the Administered Territories in the Defence Ministry demand "punishment by expulsion" to curb the current widespread unrest in Judea and Samaria.

He suggested that a "detention/exile camp" be built, "even if it does

not have the conditions of a normal prison," where detainees were to be kept until their investigation.

A camp for teenage detainees has since been built at Far'a near Nablus.

Sagan (Captain) Akiva Saronvitz, operations officer in the Judea district at the time, testified that on March 15 he heard the district commander, Sgan-Aluf (Lieut-Col.) Shalom Lugassi, issue orders to shoot at solar heaters, break watches and shoot in alleys to enforce a curfew imposed on the Dahiye refugee camp south of Bethlehem.

Saronvitz, who was called by the defence, also testified that there were "preventive arrests" during which people were detained according to a list of names provided by the civil administration or the general security service, even if they were not suspected of any offence, to try and prevent unrest.

Saronvitz was asked how he understood the term "to deal with" the Arab students who had been detained during a riot in the Hebron University as it had been used by the military commander of the area, Aluf-Mishne (Col.) Ya'acov Harabi. Like the accused and other witnesses who have appeared, Saronvitz was in no doubt that Harabi meant that they should be beaten.

The trial is due to end this week.

Israeli alarm system protects Elizabeth

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. — Queen Elizabeth is now protected at Buckingham Palace by a security system bought from Israel, according to a report in the mass-circulation daily, *The Sun*.

The system, which costs £375,000 was made by Mgd, a subsidiary of the Israel Aircraft Industry, the paper said. It was originally developed in the early 1970s to detect infiltration.

An intruder, Michael Fagan, broke into the palace and entered the Queen's bedroom last July, but this was before the Israeli system was fully installed.

According to *The Sun*, the system has been tested by security services throughout the world and has earned Israel millions of pounds in export orders. But its installation in Buckingham Palace was not announced, the report adds, "because Britain was afraid of the reaction of the Arab states."

Soviet weekly predicts new ties with Egypt

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Relations between the Soviet Union and Egypt, strained for the past 10 years, are likely to improve in the near future, a leading Soviet political newspaper said last week.

In a report from Cairo, the weekly *Literaturnaya Gazeta* said everybody in the Egyptian political establishment now views the normalization of ties between the two states as inevitable.



Huda Manjoud, 4, from Tripoli, Lebanon, has returned home after open-heart surgery at Haifa's Carmel Hospital. Huda, who suffered from a congenital heart defect, was the sixth Lebanese to be treated at the department in the past three months. During her stay, Huda's father remained in the hospital and kept in touch by telephone with the rest of their family in Tripoli. The photo shows Huda being treated by a nurse.

'Reagan's doubts' on Begin

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Well-placed U.S. sources have reminded reporters that President Ronald Reagan — like former President Jimmy Carter before him — has become deeply frustrated and annoyed by Prime Minister Menachem Begin. Reagan, they said, is doubtful that he can trust Begin to live up to earlier Israeli commitments, because he believes that Begin misled him three times.

During their first White House meeting in September 1981, Reagan was convinced that he had struck a deal with Begin on a moderate Israeli response to the administration's controversial sale of AWACS surveillance aircraft to Saudi Arabia. Instead, Begin lashed out bitterly and repeatedly against the sale during meetings with congressmen and the American Jewish leadership — beginning only a day after he left the White House. Privately, Reagan went so far as to accuse Begin of being a liar.

Reagan believed assurances from Begin that Israel's initial drive into Lebanon last June was designed only to clear out a 40 kilometre security zone. When Israel moved its troops all the way to the outskirts of Beirut, Reagan was once again convinced that Begin could not be trusted. White House officials said.

Finally, when Israel moved its troops into West Beirut immediately following Bashir Jemayel's assassination last September, the president once again privately accused Begin of being "untrustworthy."

Those assurances, a U.S. official said, "proved worthless, and Reagan has a long memory. He was burned three times by Begin. He does not plan to be burned again."

Meanwhile, former president Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford have charged Prime Minister Menachem Begin with "not living up" to the Camp David accords.

In a joint by-lined article in the February issue of *Readers Digest*, they said Israel's continued establishment of settlements in the West Bank was "the major obstacle to any moderate Arab initiatives for a peaceful resolution of differences."

LISTED BY TIME ZONES
Nov. 7, 1982-March 7, 1983

NORTH AMERICA			
EST	CST	MST	PST
7 p.m.	6 p.m.	5 p.m.	4 p.m. (*)
8 p.m.	7 p.m.	6 p.m.	5 p.m. (*)
9 p.m.	8 p.m.	7 p.m.	6 p.m. (*)
Midnight	11 p.m.	10 p.m.	9 p.m. (**)

(*) On these frequencies:
11655 kHz 25 metre band
9815 kHz 31 metre band
7410 kHz 40 metre band

(**) On these frequencies:
11637 kHz 25 metre band
11610 kHz 25 metre band
9815 kHz 30 metre band
9420 kHz 31 metre band

UNITED KINGDOM & EUROPE (GMT)

6 a.m.	11637, 11610, 9815, 9420 kHz
12 midday	21625, 21405, 17670, 15605 kHz
8 p.m.	11637, 9815, 9420 kHz
10 p.m.	15685, 13745, 11655, 9815 kHz
11 p.m.	19, 21, 25, 30 metre bands

SOUTH AFRICA (GMT + 2 Hours)
17085 & 18085 in the 17 & 18 metre bands

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, SOUTHEAST ASIA (GMT - 10 hours)
Tasmania

3 p.m. 21710 & 11637 kHz in the 17 & 25 metre bands
10 p.m. 15685 kHz in the 18 metre band

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FOR THE politicians who conceived it, Ma'aleh Adumim is a hard-edged political statement, as pragmatic as a punch in the nose.

For the planners who created it, Ma'aleh Adumim is a soft-edged dream, as romantic as a desert oasis.

The construction since 1967, of close to 200 new settlements across the green line has been a private fantasy for Israeli planners, who have been able to create on the ground visions that their colleagues abroad can only doodle on paper. Urban settlements in particular — such as Katrin on the Golan Heights and Yamit in Sinai — have provided an opportunity to indulge in a planner's dream, to recreate the world in the form of an ideal community.

Ma'aleh Adumim is a classic city in the desert, which was transplanted full-blown from the minds of planner Tommie Leitersdorf and his colleagues to the barren hillsides on the upper step of the Judean Desert east of Jerusalem. It is the largest settlement to be built across the green line, and the most meticulously planned.

"WE HAD a very romantic image of a desert *khan* (inn)," says Eliahu Barzachi, district architect of the Housing Ministry, who worked closely with master planner Leitersdorf. "It's important when you start something, to have a dream."

The idea of the *khan*, with its interior courtyard, is transposed in Ma'aleh Adumim to close-in planning, with small courtyards protected from the powerful desert wind by the buildings around them. Arcades provide protection from the sun, and cars are kept at the periphery of the residential areas.

For his city-sized, 20th century *khan*, Leitersdorf proposes an internal transportation system made up of "people movers" such as those used at Disney World — slow moving doorless wagons winding at frequent intervals through the town.

Housing Ministry officials had from the first seen the need for a high degree of Quality of Life in Ma'aleh Adumim, to induce people to abandon the comforts inside the political and botanical green line for the desert. Their proposal for a high percentage of large apartments met opposition from Housing Minister David Levy, who wanted more and smaller apartments. A compromise was reached which still left a higher percentage of large apartments than the ministry normally builds in a new town.

Further breaking the traditional pattern of Israeli apartment construction — most of the buildings were kept to three storeys or less. Some 30 per cent of the apartments are at ground level and have private gardens. Also planned is a system of parks, which the planners would like to include a lake and cafés. "We thought it important, because of the desert surroundings, to have a water element," said Leitersdorf.

Uncertain that high standards were sufficient, the ministry initially subsidised prices so that apartments were about 25 per cent less than the price of equivalent flats in the new Jerusalem neighbourhoods like Gilo, with which Ma'aleh Adumim was in direct competition.

The long lines of prospective purchasers that immediately began to form — three or four for each available apartment — forced the ministry to establish a lottery. Since the first family moved in last May, some 150 have followed and another 150 are to arrive within a month. In all, 2,500 apartments are under construction or completed in one of the most intensive efforts



Aerial view of Ma'aleh Adumim: an extra-large dose of Quality of Life for 2,500 Israeli families.

A DREAM IN THE DESERT

Settlement in Judea and Samaria may be a diplomat's nightmare. But it is also the kind of opportunity of which every planner dreams. The Jerusalem Post's ABRAHAM RABINOVICH meets the people who shaped the new town of Ma'aleh Adumim, just east of Jerusalem.

ever undertaken by the Housing Ministry.

Although apartments are now readily available as a result of the general slack of demand for housing, so firmly is the town's image established that prices are now just 10-15 per cent less than in Gilo. Private contractors have now begun building even without a guarantee from the government to purchase the apartments if the market does not absorb them.

Private investors too have begun to make inquiries about non-residential ventures in Ma'aleh Adumim. To date there have been feelers concerning three hotels and a "country-club." "They've begun to discover that Ma'aleh Adumim is right next to Jerusalem

and with land available," says Leitersdorf.

Representatives of Israeli movie mogul Menahem Golan recently presented the Housing Ministry with a proposal for a \$10 million construction package that would include film studios at the Ma'aleh Adumim industrial area, a 20,000-seat amphitheatre near the Good Samaritan Inn on the Jericho Road where shows could be presented live and filmed, and a multi-purpose theatre complex in the town itself, along with 40 executive apartments. The ministry has asked for more details.

THE RAPID public acceptance won by Ma'aleh Adumim is noteworthy, considering the dif-

ficulty initially experienced by new neighbourhoods within Jerusalem itself. Its success bespeaks not only sound planning and subsidies, but a shifting national consensus regarding the territories — at least, towards parts of those captured in the Six Day War.

"You've got a cross-section of Israel's population here, including Peace Now people," says Gideon Hochfield, Ma'aleh Adumim project manager for the ministry. "No one came here to carry the flag." Three-quarters of the residents are from Jerusalem, mostly young couples in search of housing they can afford.

Tommy Leitersdorf himself — he was named after the first president of Czechoslovakia, Tomas Masaryk

— exemplifies this shift of attitude. "My views have changed," he said this week in an interview.

"Before I thought that we could sit in Tel Aviv and Savyon (he works in the former and lives in the latter) and live and let live. But now I see the vital links. It isn't a question of right or wrong on the philosophical level, but of the minimum Israel needs, from the territorial point of view, in order to survive."

THE AREA of Ma'aleh Adumim astride the main road from Jerusalem to Jericho had been kept free of settlement by Labour governments following 1967, leaving open the option of a territorial compromise with Jordan that could include a corridor from the Arab world to the Temple Mount via Allenby Bridge. However, in 1974 the then Labour Government decided to create an industrial park at Ma'aleh Adumim following the Rabat Conference and Yasser Arafat's speech at the United Nations. A "temporary work camp" was also erected.

The following year, a group of nationalists — some of them linked to Gush Emunim but others not — squatted on the site, in an attempt to force the government to establish a permanent settlement in the area. The government waffled — providing the squatters with pre-fab huts but not committing itself — until the end of 1977, when it decided to create a town of 5,000 units.

The Likud government inherited this idea when it took office and asked Leitersdorf's firm to draw up plans for the proposed site, some 20 km. from Jerusalem and close to the Dead Sea. After an extensive survey of the area by climatologists, Leitersdorf concluded that the site would be unlivable to all but a band of hardy pioneers. He proposed instead a site just eight kilometres from Jerusalem, which promised, at an altitude of 500 metres above sea level, a comfortable climate. The government accepted the shift and decided to double the number of apartments to 10,000. Construction got under way in December 1979.

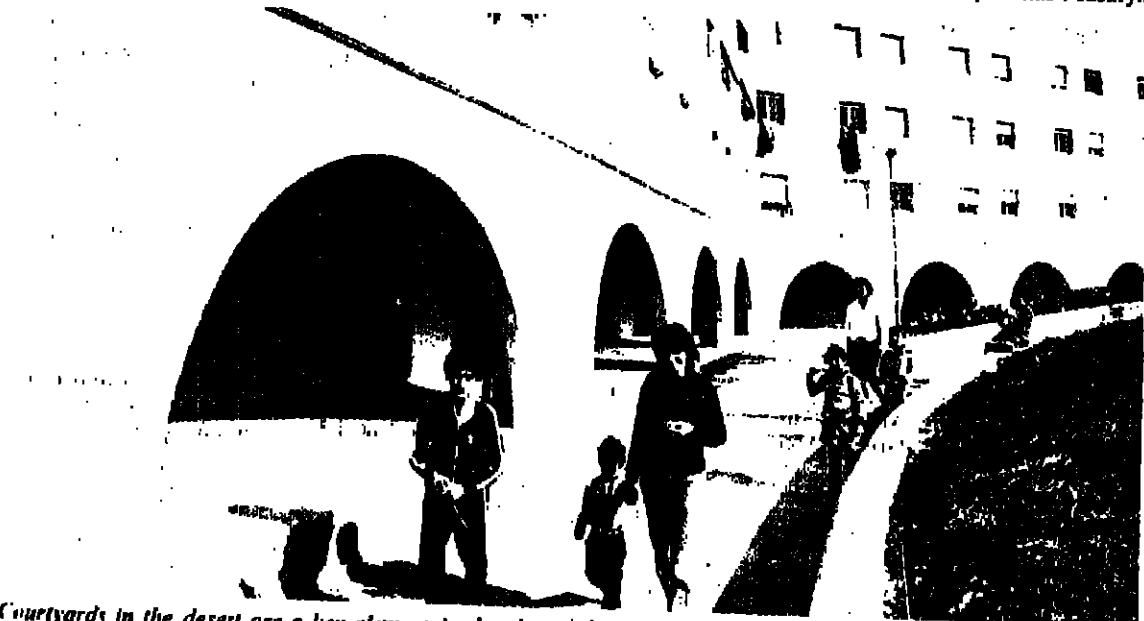
Of the nationalists who had squatted in the initial settlement near the industrial area, some have moved to Kfar Adumim, a new settlement close to Jericho. Others have settled in the new city. From among the latter group, the Housing Ministry has chosen men to run the local council until elections are held.

There is still uncertainty about categorizing Ma'aleh Adumim as a satellite, a suburb, a self-contained city or part of Jerusalem itself. A new road link via Mount Scopus will permit residents to avoid driving through Arab suburbs — a driving hazard at the best of times, a security hazard at the worst. The new road will get motorists inside Jerusalem in 10 minutes.

The planners also mean to keep residents psychologically close to Jerusalem by deliberately providing sight lines through the buildings that lead the casual gaze up to the towers on the Mount of Olives and Mount Scopus to the west. At night, the lights of Jerusalem are clearly visible.

District architect Barzachi, referring to the ancient practice of lighting bonfires from the Mount of Olives on the night of a new moon to signal by relays to the Diaspora, said of the new night-time signals now passing between Jerusalem and Ma'aleh Adumim: "We see this almost as a biblical connection of lights."

The signals are clear, but their ultimate political message remains to be deciphered. □



Courtyards in the desert are a key element in the planners' concept.

(Karen Ben-Zion)

PEOPLE

Health minister's advice

HEALTH MINISTER Eliezer Shostak advised MKs last week to avoid getting ulcers by leading a low-key life style. This prompted Shitni's Amnon Rubinstein to interject: "Just don't read newspapers," while Labour's Dov Ben-Meir chimed in with "Stay away from politics." When David Magen asked Shostak how many MKs had ulcers, Deputy Knesset Speaker Moshe Shaleh protested: "What do you need to know for? So that there should be more ulcer cases?"

FORMER Liberal minister Yitzhak Bernan last week was overheard correcting people who referred to the first and second Begin governments. "To be precise," said Bernan, "we should refer to the dominant influence in each administration. So between 1977 and 1981 it was the Moshe Dayan cabinet, and since 1981 it has been the Arieh Sharon cabinet."

WHEN Transport Minister Haim Corfu was denounced for venturing into military policy matters, a near-by MK observed: "If the Defence Minister can take over foreign affairs, the Housing Minister can intervene in El Al and the Tourism Minister can peddle intelligence information, why shouldn't the Transport Minister delve into defence?"

BRITISH PREMIER Margaret Thatcher's firm stand against Saudi pressure to receive a PLO terrorist assured a warm welcome for this year's fifth annual British Conservative Friends of Israel mission, led by vice chairman Hugh Dykes. Many top Israelis braved the stormy weather last weekend to attend British Ambassador Patrick Moberly's reception.

The only cabinet minister there was Mordechai Zilpuri, who is chairman of the former IZL Fighters Association. When he visited the U.K. in his IDF days and they asked him how he knew English so well, Zilpuri confessed that he learned it "during the four years I was a guest of His Majesty in an Eritrean detention camp." Among those present was Labour MK Chaim Herzog on one of his first outings since his recent heart attack.

Ian McLeod, the Greater London Conservative chief, told me he was thrilled that Begin had called him "a righteous gentile."

FOREVER, Moshe Schlitzner has really earned his appellation as "Mr. Diamond." Recently he was re-elected for an eighth term as

PUBLIC FACES

Mark Segal



Shostak



Corfu

president of the Israel Diamond Exchange.

Schlitzner, one of Israel's wealthiest men, last week reacted to Finance Minister Aridor's offer of \$3 million in incentives to the diamond trade by sniffing: "If he wants to offer charity, he can give it to development towns."

THE MANY FRIENDS of the late Moggy Margalit will be glad to learn that a memorial booklet has been brought out in his honour. Margalit, a founder of British Hahonim, died in September aged 67. The booklet contains messages from old friends such as the late British Zionist leader Edward Saff and Hebrew University President Avraham Harman and his wife, Zena.

WHO ELSE but Defence Minister Ariel Sharon could get the Herut pot boiling again. The latest episode in the continuing saga of the Unstoppable Arieh concerns the resumption of the "Sharontours" to South Lebanon, which has prompted party organization chief Michael Reiser to register a strong protest with the chairman of the party secretariat, Finance Minister Yoram Aridor.

The rose

TORA AND FLORA
Louis I. Rabinowitz

tanna Jose ben Halaftha. Three of them are biblical, Ishmael (yes, Jews gave this name to their children, Elazar and Menahem; one, the same as that of his grandfather, the Aramaic name Halaftha; and one Greek, Abilus. But, asks the Talmud, was there not also Yehoshua? The reply is that this was an additional name Menahem bore; he was so called because of his handsome appearance since he was like (domeh) a rose.

There seems little doubt, however, that this is a mere fanciful

Reiser last week reminded Aridor that Sharon had promised — in writing — to stop taking party faithful on guided tours of the war zone. The objection is not surprising, since Reiser has strong ties to Deputy Premier (and Sharon rival) David Levy. Much of the conversation on the latest Sharontour was devoted to Levy's *hutzpa* in questioning the continued presence of IDF troops in the Druse-Christian Shouf Mountain "war zone."

After the latest trip Kiryat Gat Mayor (and MK) David Magen told newsmen: "You might say that when we started out, not all of us were for Arieh. But by the end of the trip, we certainly, we certainly were."

THERE WERE ALSO a number of Herutniks in the 90-strong entourage which accompanied Sharon to Zaire last week. Aboard the minister's plane were eight radio and TV newsmen and technicians, including Dan Scemama. Israel TV's military correspondent seems to have gotten back in Arieh's good graces quite quickly; it is only a couple of weeks since Sharon was seeking Scemama's head for reporting on anti-Sharon sentiments among soldiers in Lebanon.

FOREIGN MINISTER Yitzhak Shamir has reaffirmed his desire to install a faithful Herutnik as our ambassador in London, to succeed Shlomo Argov. Speculators are now putting their money on the chances of either Prof. Reuven Yaron, the Broadcasting Authority chairman and a key member of the party's Jerusalem branch, or Eliahu Lankin, the current ambassador to South Africa.

LABOUR SPOKESMAN Yossi Beilin appealed to Premier Menachem Begin last week to bring Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir back home. "Please curb his wanderings which damage the country's interests," begged Beilin. This plea was prompted by the fuss over Sharir's claim, at a Bonds luncheon in Paris, that Israel had turned down a non-aggression offer from the PLO on the eve of the war in Lebanon. Despite Sharir's denials and protests that he was misquoted, I have been told that the Israel Embassy has a tape of his remarks. This prompted Sharir to call from New York to ask ambassador Meir Rosenne to issue a denial. But after the transcript was read back to him, he reportedly abandoned the idea, asking them to erase the tape.

explanation, and that, like Abilus, it is a Greek name, Eurodymos. The Israel Philatelic Service issued with its three-stamp series on the roses of Israel an explanatory pamphlet by David E. Gilead. It is worth reading and mentions, *inter alia*, that in 1890, Baron Edmond de Rothschild, in addition to establishing a wine industry in this country which still flourishes, also attempted to promote the production of flowers and perfume. The Baron had 100 dunams of a certain rose planted in the settlements of Judea and Galilee, but the venture failed. Last year, Israel exported more than 200 million roses to Europe during the winter season. There is but one slip in that otherwise excellent pamphlet. The date of the compilation of the Mishna is given as 600 BCE.

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HIS FACE is known around Jerusalem; his voice is known around the world. For 27 years, Michael Elkins has been living in a house not far from Mea Shearim, and since 1967 he has been the BBC's man in Israel, sometimes heard broadcasting as many as 15 times within 24 hours. He is now 66 years old. His close-cropped hair is grey, and his cheeks are even more deeply lined than before his illness at the beginning of the war in Lebanon. His voice, however, is the familiar voice, rich but not sweet, oscillating between gentleness and anger, and still recalling the streets of New York. On the eve of retirement, Elkins agreed to be interviewed, "not as a representative of the BBC, but as a human being who happens to be a journalist."

Elkins recounts that when he graduated from high school in the middle of the Depression, he went straight to Hollywood. He wrote scripts until blacklisted for participating in the Hollywood Anti-Nazi League, "which had Communists in it but wasn't Communist." He then worked as a labour organizer on the West Coast. During World War II, he was in the cloak-and-dagger Office of Strategic Services in Europe.

After the war he returned to California and resumed his union activities, but in 1948, convinced by what he had seen in Europe of the necessity for a Jewish state, he came to Israel on a pro-Zionist mission. During the next eight years, he was "back and forth" between Israel and the U.S., writing documentary movies on immigration from Yemen and on the *ma'abarot*, and other subjects, and helping build Kol Israel's overseas service. In 1956, just before the Sinai campaign, Elkins became CBS Radio's stringer and settled in Jerusalem.

Were the natives friendly to foreign correspondents then?

Things were nicer in general. Israel was an exciting, but also a more relaxed and intimate place than it's become. Also, I wasn't a stranger, nor were most of the so-called foreign correspondents at that time — they were residents of the country.

Has a foreign correspondent in Israel who happens to be Jewish had to do anything, especially in recent years, to prove to his employers that he can be as tough on the Jewish state as the next guy?

If an employer feels the need for this, it's up to the correspondent to resist. He has to resist leaning over backwards to prove that his Jewishness is not affecting his professional integrity.

What does trouble a correspondent who's Jewish, especially at times when Israel is perceived to be or is actually in danger, is the temptation to let his Jewish identity pull him toward bias — he has to resist that too. There's pressure on him from Israelis who expect him to slant his presentation of the news, and if he doesn't, will accuse him of forgetting he's a Jew.

A journalist who makes no bones about being Jewish yet who tries to report truthfully on all issues, including those about which he's most vitally concerned, is liable to catch it from all sides.

For example, I've consistently been opposed by the Arab lobby in Britain, its spearhead being the Committee for Anglo-Arab Better Understanding. They've tried to persuade the BBC to get rid of me because I'm a Jew and a committed Zionist.

Then there's pressure from the other side. There are Israelis high and low who have told me that it's my duty as a Jew to present only the official Israeli point of view.

Anyone who's listened to your broadcasts knows that while you're fair and dispassionate in your bulletins, in your longer commentaries you hold Israel up to a very high moral standard. Why do you do that?

As a Jew and a Zionist, I judge Israel by higher standards, because I think aspiring to a higher morality is what Judaism is about. As a reporter, I try to see Israel through the same moral prism as I do other countries, and always to be fair, factual and reasonable.

What you call reasonable others call tough. Don't you have misgivings that when you're reasonable and/or tough in reporting on Israel, you're providing grist for people who have no love for the Jewish state?

I can't be concerned with what use others make of my reports. If something is newsworthy, I'll report it.

Have you noticed any difference over the years between the way Jewish and non-Jewish correspondents have approached Israeli subjects and reported on Israel?

In general, no. What has happened is that Israel's image has deteriorated in the eyes of many people, including both Jewish and non-Jewish journalists.

Why is that?

A couple of elements come into this. One is that a pervasive sympathy for the underdog coloured the reporting about Israel in 1967. Israel then was perceived as endangered. But the Six Day War established Israel as a great military power. The Palestinians became the underdogs, and they've benefited from that.

But the coverage didn't reflect that immediately, did it?

No, because the Palestinian problem did not thrust itself upon the news media until the PLO began its terror raids and particularly until the people in the occupied territories began to protest against the Israeli occupation.

For years, Jordanian police and the Jordanian Legion had beaten people in the West Bank in the streets. How many times did you see that on television? Or hear it reported? Neyer. Or hardly ever. But it became a story when Israel became the occupier and allowed reporters and cameras in. It's the penalty of being a democracy, and I would have it no other way. But the basic element was the switch. David had become Goliath and the Palestinians had become David.

You say the Palestinians thrust themselves upon the media with terrorism and protests. Hasn't the media, wittingly or unwittingly, been used?

Of course the Palestinians used the media. So did the Hagana. The freedom marchers in America used the media. All civil rights movements use the media. On the other side, Hitler used the media. Everybody uses the media, that's what it's there for. I see nothing wrong with that. What I see can be problematic is how the media reports.

Can you be specific?

All the media are liable to be used in the wrong way, in a corrupting way. Television stands in perhaps the greatest danger of being misused. This is because of the nature of the medium and the way most TV people go about their work. They look for the foreground, not the background. In other words, they



Behind the Mike

Michael Elkins, who describes himself as 'a human being who happens to be a journalist,' admits that some stories 'make me want to scream.' He talks about the highs and lows of his 27 years as a foreign correspondent in Israel with A.E. NORDEN.

look for the violence.

In the context of the occupied areas, that means that television, more than any other medium, shows the riot in terms of Israelis firing at the crowd or coming in with clubs. It's perhaps a 45-second report. It's accurate, because it shows what happened for a few seconds, but it isn't complete or fair because it doesn't show what happened before. Were the Israeli soldiers attacked, were some hurt, did they call through loud-speakers, did they fire in the air? There's no time to show all that, and anyway, it's not so exciting. So you're accurate without being fair, and you're misused by one side in a political struggle.

Taking the long view, with all the background you can see, don't you believe that the Israeli occupation is improper?

I believe the occupation is poisoning us. It not only makes us look bad, it actually makes us bad. It's an unnecessary evil.

Let's finish charting this switch in the media. When did it show up in the media? And was it aggravated by Begin's election in 1977?

From 1967 to 1977 there were ups and downs for Israel's image — Entebbe provided a dramatic boost — but in general, because of the occupation and fear of an oil embargo, Israel's image was in trouble. At for Mr. Begin, his style and policies have damaged Israel's image more severely than it was damaged by any of the Labour governments.

Don't forget the international context, though. Other governments around the world, for their own reasons, started to feel bothered by Israel. This reflected itself in a certain change in public

opinion in those countries, irrespective of the media.

Irrespective? I wonder. You've been a correspondent for CBS, for Newsweek, and for the BBC. Didn't you feel that your bosses, who drink with the policy-makers in London and Washington, had their own ideas on what should be written or said about the Middle East crisis?

They have their own ideas, which often run contrary to what I think is fair and correct. But I don't have any problem with that. My problem comes if and when what they think comes out as if it were coming from me. In this respect, I've had quite different experiences with CBS, Newsweek and the BBC.

Newsweek — like Time and Der Spiegel and Le Point — handles every story as a cooperative effort. On a Middle East story, there's input from the correspondents in Amman, Beirut, Jerusalem and so on, and it's all put into one big pot in New York or Washington and stirred around. The story when it's published doesn't necessarily reflect the view of any one correspondent, nor does it indicate whose views it is reflecting. I don't like that and I don't do it anymore.

I report for the BBC. When they say "Our Correspondent in Jerusalem," that's me. On the Newsweek they carry me in voice. They may cut it because I've run long. In most cases they cut it where I have said, "If you have to cut, cut there." But they have no right to change the thrust, and in 16 years they have changed it very, very, very rarely. When they have done so, I have raised hell and it has been corrected. That's why I loved reporting for the BBC.

Why did you quit as a Newsweek correspondent after the Yom Kippur War?

It was a question of personalities — serious disagreements with the then foreign editor — together with the nature of news-magazine journalism, where there's no clear image of what the correspondent has to say.

And why did you quit CBS?

On the first morning of the Six Day War, I told both CBS and the BBC that the war was won. I knew the results of the Israeli air strikes and it was obvious the Arabs couldn't use their armour if they didn't have air support. Both CBS and the BBC held up broadcasting the news because it was almost unbelievable.

There were two differences, though. Number one, I was new to the BBC. They perhaps had reason to be uneasy. But I'd worked for CBS for 11 years and I hadn't made any gross errors of fact, so they should have trusted me.

Difference number two was that the BBC held my dispatch up and then broadcast it some hours later and kept quiet and sweated it out until it was confirmed. CBS held it up and then broadcast it and sent me a telex which said — and I remember it well — "Your instant victory broadcast widely used radio television, creating nationwide sensation. There is no support from any other source. You had better be right."

And I thought, you bastards! What are you going to do if I'm wrong? Take blood? So I quit.

To get back to the BBC. In spite of your broadcasts, the man in the street in Israel believes that the BBC has a leaning to the Arab point of view and that this generally colours its reporting on the subject of Arabs and Jews. Is there anything to that?

The BBC isn't a monolith. There are no institutional points of view there in regard to politics. There are institutional points of view as to what constitutes proper broadcasting, story values — about that there are guidelines. So far as the Arab-Israeli conflict is concerned, I've found individual points of view, as you would in any organization. These are sometimes reflected in some programmes. But there's no general political policy.

But is the BBC World Service entirely free of pressure from the Foreign Office?

I wouldn't say it was free of pressure, but I have seen no yielding to such pressure. In any event, I think that many people in Israel hear what isn't said. They're shaving, they're arguing with the wife, they're beating up the kids. Their attention is divided — that's a problem with radio.

Also, their irritation with the BBC stems from the fact that it's the only foreign news medium experienced daily by many Israelis regarding issues about which they have very strong opinions. And increasingly, the attitude in Israel is, if you're not one hundred per cent for us, you're an enemy. This attitude is reflected within the Israeli framework on every level. You see Israelis being called traitor who have distinguished records of public service. Why should some Israelis be more charitable or understanding or sensible about the stranger who disagrees with them?

You say there's something deeply flawed in the way editors approach the Middle East. Does this apply to all media — radio, TV, print?

Absolutely! Because the Arab-Israeli conflict replaced the war in Vietnam as the principal continuing

news story in the world sometime between 1973 and 1975, and because Israel is still a much more open society than any Arab society, the editors blow out of proportion and sensationalize what otherwise would be some relatively inconsequential incidents.

Did the flawed judgment of the news bosses back in New York and Washington show up in coverage of the invasion of Lebanon, the siege of Beirut, and the massacre in the camps?

The coverage of the war was a classic example of how, with some notable exceptions, journalism has become sensationalized. There appeared to be no room for thought, insight, for giving the audience any perspective. It was all destruction.

I saw on Israel TV a number of interviews with foreign correspondents. One fellow will stick in my mind forever. He was lean and he had a cigarette dangling from his mouth and was pounding away on the typewriter — straight out of Ben Hecht. And he looked up and said, "I've been covering wars for years, and I've never seen such destruction."

My reaction was, where the hell has he been covering wars? Certainly not in Vietnam, certainly not World War Two. What was he covering? Tribal wars where one tribe was throwing rocks at another? And this was apparently a serious journalist!

Don't get me wrong — the bombing of Beirut by the IDF appalled me, simply because it's impossible



to stand by and not be appalled by innocent people suffering, for whatever reason. But there was immense exaggeration in the coverage by the world press, and not a little hypocrisy.

The world swallowed the bombing of Dresden, it swallowed the bombing of Hiroshima, but to judge from the press, it was shocked by the destruction in Lebanon last summer. Was this a tribute to the sudden emergence of human sympathy? I doubt it. I think that, with a few honourable exceptions, it was merely the result of the sensationalist nature of reporting.

No, I want to add something to that. There were a couple of other factors distorting the coverage. It's true that many editors sent directives to their correspondents saying, "Give us more pictures of ruins and killing." There was certainly that. But don't underestimate the power of pure ignorance.

The fire brigade people who come smashing in whenever there's a war anywhere — TV leading the pack but others as well — don't have any historical knowledge. So they can broadcast from Damour and in all innocence say the place was just destroyed. They don't know that a very large part of the wreckage was caused when the Palestinians devastated Damour.

It was one of the jobs of Israeli officials to inform foreign pressmen who did what to Damour and when. Could the Government Press Office or the IDF spokesman have done a better job explaining the war to the media?

Yes, they could have improved their performances peripherally. But it's too easy to blame the people handling the information. Fundamentally, you cannot explain away a policy seen as bad. And you cannot explain away or justify the maimed children....

(But I think) that the events of the war in Lebanon provided a golden opportunity for some people in the West to solve their Jewish problem at last in a novel way. Look at the eagerness with which some governments and many people and a good part of the media referred to the bombing of Beirut and the massacre in the camps as a holocaust. A holocaust, no less!

Let's talk about life in Israel. It seems that Israel hasn't turned out as well as you hoped. Aren't you disappointed?

Of course I'm disappointed. What troubles me most, perhaps, is the loss of love of Jew for Jew in Israel. When I first arrived, I'd be asked, "Do you have relatives here?" And I'd say no. And over and over the answer would come, "Never mind, kol Israel mishpaha ahat — all Israel is one family." And it was largely true then. Well, all Israel is no longer one family.

What happened? For one thing, 25 years ago this was an elite nation. The Israelis were the best of the Jewish people from all over the world. We Israelis are no longer an elite people.

Was that really so 25 years ago? Weren't most of the people here then refugees who had no other place to go in the world?

Yes. But the men and women of the old Yishuv controlled Israel, dominated it, set its ethical standards. And they were the best of the Jews. You had a hope that the standards of that elite would permeate the population. But this didn't happen and I'm not sure that it could happen, because a mass is never an elite. Perhaps this degeneration was inevitable. Furthermore, we are part of the world, and the world degenerated.

Israel, in 1983, doesn't seem a worse society than others you know?

Certainly not. I think Israel is better than it appears, that by and large the Israelis are better than they know and better than their image, and that there's still hope here. But I fear for Israel, as you fear for any loved one endangered from outside and endangered by itself. And the Israelis are endangering themselves and the state by ignoring the ethics of Judaism.

You're a Jew and you've lived here for the greater part of your adult life and you call yourself a Zionist. Why haven't you become an Israeli citizen?

I'm a permanent resident, with all the duties of a citizen — I pay taxes, and if I weren't over age I'd be called into the army. I intend to go on living here when I retire. But in the early days, I wasn't sure. On top of that, the BBC might not have hired me if I were an Israeli citizen. If they had hired me and I'd afterwards become an Israeli, that would have sharpened the campaign to get rid of me.

Those are a couple of the reasons. But the continuing reason for not taking Israeli citizenship is this: citizenship is not the measure of identification for me. I don't feel a stranger here, even though I'm not a citizen. At the same time, I have an emotional attachment to the United States. I was not driven from my birthplace, and I don't feel like renouncing it. I could, of course, become a dual citizen, like other American Jews who've done that without renouncing America.

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MEIR SHITRIT at 33 is one of the country's youngest MKs. A Herut member of the Finance Committee, he has been going around lately, sending noisy signals to the Finance Ministry to find the money missing for Project Renewal from the budgets of the Ministries of Health, Labour and Social Affairs, and Education. "Otherwise," he said during an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, "I will find it difficult to vote for the budgets when they come before the committee."

He sees Project Renewal as Israel's No. 1 priority after defence. And his rebellious approach is in keeping with the independent positions he has frequently adopted, since becoming a member of the 10th Knesset in June 1981.

Despite his Hardy Amies suit, his is still the authentic voice of the son of Moroccan immigrants who live in the development town of Yavne, where they moved in 1957 after a spell in a transit camp. Personable and articulate, he feels very strongly about the need to bridge the social gap, which he sees as the key element in the nation's struggle for survival.

His success as chairman of the Yavne local council has provided material for an Educational TV documentary on exemplary leadership. He plans to run for another term in the November elections; in the last few years he has helped to transform a dusty, neglected immigrant town into a thriving regional centre which has attracted professionals from Rehovot, army families from the Tel Aviv area, and young couples from Rishon LeZion.

SHITRIT WAS stung to the quick by the accusations of Tehiya's Geula Cohen that he was willing to forgo West Bank settlement budgets for the sake of social spending.

"I resent being accused of being against the settlement programme in Judea and Samaria," he said. "What I have been insisting on is that we must find the answer to these allocations. Even without cutting these settlement budgets, I can suggest other sources."

"Let's cut half the Absorption Ministry allocation. After all, no immigrants are coming, but the same administration exists. We could save millions by doing away with the self-perpetuating WZO bureaucracy. We should abolish the Religious Affairs Ministry, and make it a department in the Interior Ministry, which it is *de facto* anyhow. I would also suggest cutting the IS800 million given over

Populist MK

Political Correspondent Mark Segal interviews Meir Shitrit, a young Knesset Member with independent ideas about how Israel should be run.



the table to Agudat Yisrael under the coalition agreement."

Concerning settlement finances, Shitrit proposed staggering the settlement programme over a number of years and earmarking the cash for social spending.

Hitting back at Cohen's dark hints that he was being unpatriotic, Shitrit warned: "If we wish to preserve Judea and Samaria within our borders, then the country has to safeguard its social well-being. Obviously it would be best if we could raise two flags simultaneously — for speeded-up settlement and social spending. But Israel's power depends largely on its social strength and the quality of its people... It is my impression that over the years this human advantage has been eroded."

The young representative of Premier Begin's party readily admitted that "my personal experience makes me particularly sensitive to issues like education. I am motivated by the desire to enable other children not to go through what I did and to have a better start in life than I had."

His parents could neither read nor write, but they encouraged their son's hunger for learning, and he started paying for his schooling by

working in nearby citrus groves from the age of 12. A scholarship was arranged for him at the Kfar Batya youth village, where he pursued his secondary education, continuing to work in the groves on his days at home.

The highlight of a recent journey to the U.S. was an appearance at a convention of the American Mizrahi Women's Organization, which sponsors the Kfar Batya youth village. Apparently, he reduced the warm-hearted delegates to tears by telling them what their project had meant for him.

His passion for education finally brought him to Bar-Ilan University, where he acquired a B.Sc. in microbiology. His initial plan to study medicine could not be pursued for lack of money. However, he served in the medical corps during his army service; after enlisting in the regular army, he rose to the rank of captain. During the Yom Kippur War, he was medical corps operations officer on the Suez Canal front.

He first got involved in public affairs in 1968, when his leadership qualities were recognized by the Yavne youths who got him to organize a revolt against the local

elders' objections to a proposed sports centre. Soon afterwards, he became president of the local Jaycees.

He plunged into politics in 1974 when his pals urged him to run on a reform slate in the Yavne council elections. The local Mapai bigwigs turned his group down, while Herut welcomed them with open arms. He won five of the 11 seats and at 24 became the country's youngest municipal leader.

Proof of his popularity came with his triumph in the 1978 local elections, when he won 85 per cent of the vote; and he helped the Likud net 58 per cent of the Yavne electorate in the 1981 general elections.

SHITRIT is a populist in outlook and a crusader by temperament. He has a number of "revolutionary proposals" he wishes to push as part of his national reform programme. He is profoundly unhappy with the entire thrust of Israel's social policies, which he blames for perpetuating social differences. He claims that three decades of socialist paternalism created generations of poverty, with too many people becoming conditioned to depend on government hand-outs.

"Instead of personal responsibility, people were educated to dependency and not to work," he declared with passion.

The present system of subsidizing the commodity rather than the needy person is wasteful and counter-productive, he pointed out. The IS23 billion spent annually on subsidies should be utilized more wisely. In addition to doing away with all subsidies, he proposed establishing a national subsistence level and compensating those who fall below it.

He wants the money to be given directly to the needy, but on condition that they work. Pursuing his radical line to his logical conclusion he urged the abolition of unemployment pay. "Too many people have been educated to become hangers-on, and not to want to work. We have to re-educate them. Under socialism, too many of the Oriental communities, whose culture was predicated on personal responsibility, were brought to rely on government aid."

"IF WE REALLY want to create one nation," he said, "we have to abolish the four existing school systems and unite all the children of Israel under one educational roof." By merging the general, the religious, the Aguda and the kibbutz networks, a vast amount of public

funds would be released for other purposes. "In development towns, for example, the separate schools mean perpetuation of communal divisions. In most rural areas, Ashkenazi children go to the general schools and Oriental children to the religious ones. That's where the differences spring from."

I asked how he would be able to overcome counter-pressures from the religious parties. "We have to enact electoral reform and introduce a presidential system," he argued, grinning disarmingly at my inability to cope with such a facile call to turn our evolving democracy inside out.

Shitrit discussed his dreams for Yavne, which has grown under his stewardship from 7,000 in 1978 to 15,000 in 1981. This year it should pass the 20,000 mark, which would give it city status.

During a recent visit to Yavne I was impressed by the neat rows of homes, each with its own little garden; and there were many trees and lawns around the older buildings of flats, renovated under the Project Renewal scheme.

Shitrit attracted better-educated people to his town with his "Build Your Own Home" project. "From the start I knew that the only way of raising the level and getting people to come to Yavne was to create a first-class educational system. On top of which I have ensured a decent quality of life by only allowing one-storey homes in the new neighbourhoods. We've had many more applications than there are building plots, and it cost neither us nor the government one agora," he declared.

One reason for Yavne being so attractive was the thriving sports and youth centre donated by Herman Kay of Birmingham, England in the mid-'70s. "It was the elders' opposition to this centre that got me originally involved in politics. And it was the first big project I completed," he related proudly.

Since then, he has promoted music education — 600 children attend music classes in Yavne today. His latest dream is to make Yavne a cultural centre for the region, as it was in ancient days. "Do you know that there is no theatre or concert hall worthy of the name for the half-million people living in the area of Rishon LeZion, Rehovot, Ashdod and Ashdod with Yavne at the heart? All we need is a donation of \$1.5 million, for which we would name the hall after the donor," he said. Official sources in Israel have no funds for this scheme.

He first got involved in public affairs in 1968, when his leadership qualities were recognized by the Yavne youths who got him to organize a revolt against the local

future. Both fusion powered plants and solar energy are making rapid gains in technology and it is more than a predictable possibility that by the time the plant is operative in another 10 years or more, it will already be obsolete.

THAT THE government can consider taking this drastic step in the circumstances points once again to a strange and almost inconceivable twist in the way we have learned to think.

No country gets more upset than Israel does over the loss of a single Israeli life due to enemy action. The killing or crippling of one of our citizens anywhere in the world is a cause for public outrage, yet the Makteshim pesticide factory, owned by the huge Koor enterprise, is permitted to operate in the centre of Beersheba. A plant less than half the size of Makteshim, producing the same type of chemicals, burned

in Italy a few years ago, leaving some 400 retarded children who breathed the smoke in its wake.

Air pollution in Ashdod makes it the No. 1 focus for respiratory diseases, yet almost nothing is being done to alleviate the situation. The government-owned port facility and power plant and the Koor-owned Agan herbicide factory will soon be joined by a loading dock for dry coal.

A government bears the responsibility for the safety of its citizens, but safety is not a matter of military security alone. In order to thrive, its citizens must also enjoy environmental protection and the security of knowing that the air they breathe, the food they eat and the water they drink are clean.

A nuclear reactor power station is not a step in the direction of this security.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

THE DOCTOR in East Jerusalem, examining an Arab patient for high blood pressure, removed the straps from the patient's arm, and told him to ease off salt and to lose weight so as to get his pressure down.

"I'll do that, doctor," said the patient, "but what are we going to do about the political situation?"

This Palestinian version of the Elephant and the Jewish Question — in this case a real conversation — was recounted last week by a doctor in the new health centre at Sheikh Jarrah, in response to a question about the impact of politics on health.

The new centre is in itself an attempt to reduce the political blood pressure in Jerusalem. It is the brainchild of Mayor Teddy Kolek, who raised \$2.5m. for it through the Jerusalem Foundation, and obtained the cooperation of the Israeli health authorities.

IN THE AFTERMATH of the Six-Day War, the Israeli government expropriated a site in Sheikh Jarrah on which the foundations for a hospital had been built by the Jordanians. Israel's national police headquarters rose in its stead. Although Israeli health facilities were made available to the Arab population — particularly the renovated Hadassah Hospital on Mount Scopus — "I felt we owed them (the Arab population) something," said Kolek.

AS THE DEADLINE for the Beduin to leave the Tel Malhata area was about to be postponed for the 10th time recently, the grumblings among those concerned were anything but abating, despite another allocation of IS100 million (\$3m.) in compensation.

The prevailing attitude in various government agencies seems to have been that the Beduin were crafty negotiators and were holding out for greater compensation.

The Beduin maintain that status, and not money, is the issue. They resent the fact that the Knesset passed a special law three years ago for the evacuation of Tel Malhata and set up a special authority to enforce it by law. It was to be evacuated to make way for a new air base, to replace bases in the Sinai.

Says Suliman Abu-Hamid, negotiator of the Al-Azarga tribe: "The law is unnecessary. It's a law for Beduin only, and it's hard to accept. I think that if I had sold part of my land to a Jew, they would have negotiated with him. We are loyal citizens, we have given a lot to this country, and it's not necessary to withhold basic rights from us."

Ibrahim Abu-Rekaik, head of the Beduin section of the Beersheba Labour Council, agrees: "First of all, I'm very critical of the law. There should have been negotiations. The Beduin are Israeli citizens. Also, this way, the people responsible for the evacuation on a ministerial level and those Beduin in the Tel Malhata area never meet directly."

Not only has the creation of the government authority created rancour among the Beduin (who like its local head, Dodik Shoshani, personally) but it has also intensified the "wars among the Jews," as well.

Previously, the Likud had no support among the Beduin, who knew only two parties, the Communists and the Alignment. Today, they have met many of the government's people and if the evacuation affair ends with their approval, they

A health cure for political ills

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH / Jerusalem Post Reporter



Sheikh Jarrah Arab Health Centre in Jerusalem

For him, the health centre has no political significance whatsoever in the broad context of the Israeli-Palestinian problem but considerable significance at the micro-level of day-to-day life in Jerusalem. "It removes a cause for grievance," he says.

THE CENTRE, which offers medical services for close to half the Arab population of Jerusalem, illustrates the ambiguous, but pragmatic, nature of the Jewish-Arab relations which have developed in Jerusalem since the Six-Day War.

At Kolek's request, Kupat Holim agreed to take over its operation, and to pay an annual rent of \$50,000 to the Jerusalem Foundation, which owns the building. The rent is set aside entirely for the building's maintenance.

Although Kupat Holim is the health insurance of the Histadrut, and thereby as much an arm of the Zionist Establishment as the Israeli army or any other Israeli institution, some 40,000 of East Jerusalem's 125,000 Arabs are paid-up, card-carrying members.

None of them, it is safe to assume, subscribes to Zionism. But they have concluded that sickness is immune to ideology, and that family health insurance, unavailable under Jordanian rule, is a good thing — particularly in view of rising costs of medical treatment and medicines.

The director of the health centre is an East Jerusalem Arab, Dr. Nafez Nuhani, who is trained in both Arab and Jewish medicine, as it were. He received his medical degree from Assiut University in Egypt, and then specialized five years at Share Zedek Hospital in

Jerusalem in family and community medicine. He also received a master's in public health from Hadassah Medical School.

"There was a big need for this centre," he said last week. "A lot of different bodies were providing medical services in East Jerusalem but we needed an up-to-date facility serving the community."

OF THE BUILDING's 4,500 square metres, only one-third is in use. The Jerusalem Foundation is attempting to raise funds abroad to fit out the rest of the building. Five of the centre's doctors are Arab and two Jewish. The bulk of the other staff members are Arab as are all the patients.

The centre serves the northern half of East Jerusalem from the American Colony to the Ramallah border, and takes the load off the previous main clinic of Kupat Holim in East Jerusalem opposite Damascus Gate. Non Kupat Holim members can use the facilities by paying a fee.

When the centre is completed, hopefully within two years, Dr. Nuhani hopes that it will be staffed with specialists in a wide variety of areas who will serve the entire population of East Jerusalem.

Most of the funds for the building were contributed by German cities, foundations and corporations, with contributions coming also from Switzerland, Austria and England.

to them say the evacuation could have been effected with much less money if only the government had a better understanding of the situation. They maintain that before evacuation of the Tel Malhata area became necessary for the construction of the Negev air base, the majority of the Beduin there wanted to move.

Dodik Shoshani says that he has done everything in his power to "obtain as many tracts of land as possible" for the evacuees. His detractors say that Shoshani, as a member of Kibbutz Lahav, wants these agricultural lands for its use. Shoshani calls this libel.

"I'm not impressed with the various official explanations given for the land freeze," says Ibrahim Abu Rekaik. "All I know is that I lose. Because of inflation, the time elapsed means money lost. It brings people to despair and opens the way for much criticism."

Suliman Al-Nesara asked "Why is it all right for Jews to live there but not us? We'll willingly move to our land there, or to Rahat. Nowhere else. What kind of law is this that tells me to leave my land and gives me 20 per cent of its value and expects me to give thanks? The compensation offered is a joke."

Abu Rekaik mentions that the murder of Beduin Sheikh Hamud Abu Raba last year left a gap not yet filled. There is no leader acceptable to all the area's Beduin. "This paves the way," he says, "for advisers to make deals over and under the table — sometimes there is 'law', sometimes negotiation, then a change, then a decision. It undermines confidence." The Sheikh was killed by three Druse in a dispute over holding of a seat in the Knesset.

Now that the Sheikh is gone, and the Abu Rekaik are just another tribe of Beduin, long-suppressed enmity and acrimony are gushing forth. One source who for years has been closely involved with minority affairs says the government authority had aligned itself with the late Sheikh, who promised to effect the evacuation within three months.

THE BEDUIN are not yet a money-oriented society, and people close

He wanted the area where Kseifia now stands, where his tribe is developed. "Now most of the Beduin have refused to enter Kseifia, and the authority was forced to build the town of Arouer on a high hill overlooking the airport area and giving an excellent outlook on the would-be military installations," this source says. The authority refuses to acknowledge its mistakes over Kseifia, he adds, and is vigorously pouring good money after bad.

LAWYER Ehabu Minkowicz, of Tel Aviv, representing 180 families from the Azarga, Al-Nesara, Abu Kush and Abu Shundum tribes of Tel Malhata, says that the Beduin do indeed want to move, but first want to see infrastructure in Kseifia and elsewhere. "Alternative places to Tel Malhata must be readied," he says. "It is not fair to stretch the matter for three-and-a-half years and then throw accusations in all directions."

Minkowicz says that until the Beduin have a written agreement, he is advising them not to evacuate. "Promises are nothing," he says, adding that he fears the government authority will come up with last-minute criteria for the distribution of the extra IS100 million in compensation — a sum he terms very generous and meaningful, being an addition of almost 100 per cent — and then will blame the Beduin for not leaving on time and penalize them.

HOW THE additional compensation will be distributed and the problem of infrastructure in the areas where the Beduin are to be moved are only two of the issues that need to be ironed out. A third is the leasing of land for farming. The Lands Administration has shown "favouritism" in handing out thousands of dunams of land, say several tribes of Beduin, and those who have their winter crops planted in Tel Malhata want to harvest their land before moving. They also feel that the government is using the leasing of lands to pressure them to move into certain areas.

THE RECENT announcement by Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i that Israel will soon begin the construction of a nuclear reactor power plant has added a new nightmare to the ecological scene in this country. The choice of sites proposed by the study group (which has been planning the affair for more than six months, but with never a word to the public), only adds new dimensions to the problem.

Two days after the energy minister made his announcement, South Africa reported the attempt by terrorists to blow up their nuclear-powered plant. Fortunately, none of the six bombs damaged the core itself or caused any leakage of nuclear materials.

Israel is a small country and its very smallness renders it extremely vulnerable. In the search for cheaper and more reliable fuel sources, we have already made the switch from oil to coal, for which we

The price of power

VIEWPOINT / D'VORA BEN SHAUL

will surely pay a high price. In this case, the price of coal will be not the traditional "blood and bone," but smog and acid rain.

This in itself is bad enough. But nuclear reactors, even when functioning perfectly, give rise to an enormous amount of thermal pollution due to the vast quantities of hot water emitted. Israel has few viable rivers and cannot permit the destruction of yet another, such as the B'sor River. Nor is there enough coastline available to say, "Well, it's only a few kilometres."

Nor is it at all certain that nuclear reactors are the fuel source of the

self-contained island off the coast of New Jersey but of a site a few kilometres from Beersheba or from Ashkelon.

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THE COMMUNITY

VIOLENT confrontations between the authorities and embittered slum-dwellers such as occurred recently in Kfar Shalem inevitably set off alarms in some quarters of an impending social Armageddon. Yet a closer look at the situation indicates that a doomsday scenario for Israel's overlapping ethnic and social conflicts is not in the cards.

Not for lack of real problems though. The miserable neglect and deprivation revealed by recent intensive journalistic coverage of the Tel Aviv neighbourhood of Kfar Shalem (where a resident was shot dead in a clash with the police after a dispute over illegal building) are real enough, and characterize — in varying degrees of intensity — dozens of other urban slums and towns throughout the country.

No precise figure exists for the number of people who suffer simultaneously from poor housing, neglected environment, restricted cultural and educational opportunities, low income and economic insecurity. The target population of Project Renewal, the Israel-Diaspora partnership to improve conditions in certain areas — numbers about 600,000. This figure, however, vastly overstates the number of people living in conditions of severe deprivation, since it includes all residents of renewal areas, the better-off together with the worst welfare cases.

Another figure, probably too low to serve as a true indicator of the extent of the problem, focuses on the 150,000 people found by the National Insurance Institute to be living in poverty. A poverty income is defined by the NII as 40 per cent of the median income of all wage earners.

For our purposes we will put the figure of those at the bottom of the social scale somewhat arbitrarily at 400,000. It need hardly be said that the vast majority of this group are of Oriental background.

This clear-cut overlap between ethnic origin and social status may seem like a sure-fire recipe for social dynamite, but it depends on the angle from which one views the figures.

For almost 30 years public discussion of the social gap in the Jewish population has been defined in terms of the "first Israel" versus the "second Israel." This would seem to split the Jewish population neatly into two parts: the established Ashkenazi upper class, today comprising roughly 40 per cent, and the deprived Oriental lower class making up about 60 per cent.

By doing a little ethnic arithmetic we come up with the following: 60 per cent of the Jewish population — about 3,700,000 — comes to a bit over 2,000,000. Now the estimated 400,000 people in the worst social circumstances comprise only a fifth of the total number of Jews of Middle Eastern background. (These admittedly rough calculations omit any consideration of those of mixed Ashkenazi-Oriental parentage.)

The conclusion is inescapable. The bipolar view of Israeli society is out of date. Most Oriental Jews do not fall into the Kfar Shalem category, although many still lag behind Ashkenazim to some extent in education, income, housing, occupation and political power.

A society's potential for severe ethnic conflict depends not only on the size of the deprived group but also on how it fits into the overall structure. Israel's Jewish population today seems to be divided into three strata: a top layer of elites in their respective fields; a broad middle class shading off into upper and lower regions that makes up the vast



"The Black Panthers succeeded as a protest movement in that they forced the establishment to put the issue of the neglected slum areas on the political agenda."

Ethnic conflict loses its steam

VIEWPOINT/Charles Hoffman

majority; and what sociologists call an "underclass" of those deprived of opportunities for advancement or improvement, or unable to take advantage of those available.

Ethnically speaking the top layer includes a sprinkling of non-Ashkenazim, the middle layer is mixed, though not in equal proportions; while the bottom is almost exclusively Oriental.

In such a structure, which has developed mainly since the Six Day War, the possibility of a mass protest movement fuelled by a combination of social deprivation and ethnic hostility has steadily diminished. The explosion ignited by the Black Panthers in the early 1970s represents the last gasp of the old, bipolar structure and not the wave of the future.

In gauging the explosive potential of the current structure, the group to watch is the young people in their 20s and 30s who would provide the leaders and activists of a mass protest movement.

Recent studies have shown that among young people of Oriental background, the intensity of their ethnic consciousness tapers off as they rise in the social ladder. Those with the greatest feeling of being set apart and with the greatest hostility towards Ashkenazim are concentrated at the bottom, with the exception of small groups of Oriental intellectuals and politicians who have recently been advocating the path of independent Oriental cultural and political expression.

THERE HAS been and still is a steady movement of young people out of the underclass, who have been able to take advantage of opportunities offered by schools, the army and the business world. If the talented and ambitious had been hemmed in instead of being allowed and encouraged to move ahead, this would have created a stratum of potential leaders for a massive upheaval. Most of the charismatic figures, pined for by slum activists longing for a leader, have left the slum and haven't looked back. They

want to eradicate any vestige of the stigma of the "old neighbourhood" which might threaten their new status. The only group which combines personal social advancement with a sense of personal responsibility for the slums that they left behind are the hundreds of young people from deprived backgrounds who have taken special academic and non-academic leadership training courses. Many have returned to work in their towns and neighbourhoods after having imbibed the "reformist" approach to solving social problems advocated by the establishment. If a handful of these people became disillusioned by the slow pace of social change and channelled their frustration into radical political action, they could be the ones to spark unrest. But for now this group still seems to be pursuing the "constructive" approach. The same goes for the younger generation of Oriental politicians.

WHAT DOES seem clear now is that the "politics of the clenched fist and the loud mouth" adopted successfully in the past by the Black Panthers and other slum protest groups appear to have exhausted their potential as an engine of mass protest. Violent outbursts and verbal assaults ("Ashke Nazim") will continue to erupt from the depths of the slums, but these are not likely to jell into a protest movement.

The Panthers succeeded as a protest movement in that they forced the establishment to put the issue of the neglected slum areas on the political agenda. But once the establishment accepted responsibility for solving this problem, the Panthers' movement lost its momentum and disintegrated.

The small size of the country and the almost instantaneous impact of brief social outbursts on the political system, as transmitted by the mass media, have also dampened the potential for a social explosion. A sustained social upheaval in the classic mould — mass demonstrations, large-scale confrontations between protestors and the authorities, and mass mobiliza-

tion for a cause — have become practically anachronistic in an era when small incidents are magnified by the media, particularly television.

Several years ago, for example, an illegal settlement in Jerusalem led by a clever neighbourhood thug (remember the Oholim?) riveted the attention of the entire country for weeks and won the leader a meeting with the prime minister. Kfar Shalem was something of a replay of this episode, though unplanned and with tragic consequences for the Yehoshua family.

Such incidents serve as "reminders" to the establishment that unsolved problems still exist but are not necessary for defining the problem in the first place.

ANOTHER way to attract the attention of the media and send tremors through the political system is to organize small underground cells aimed at political vandalism, sabotage and even personal terrorism. This channel for slum protests was used several years ago by the so-called Ma'at gang.

This, too, is a more economical way of making a point, without the laborious and unglamorous work of organizing a grass-roots movement. It is unlikely, however, that such clandestine gangs could survive for long in the smothering intimacy of Israeli society, which lacks the vast, impersonal urban settings in which these groups thrive elsewhere.

In claiming that there is little potential for a mass protest movement of the underprivileged, we shouldn't overlook the obvious. Israeli society provides many alternative channels for dissipating the frustrations of slum existence: crime, which has become big business in the last decade; emigration; football, with the Shimshon club arms cache a perfect example of displaced social protest; and, last but not least Herut politics (Begin! Begin!). To make our point, it is even possible to dispense with the old cliché that were it not for our external conflict with the Arabs, Israel would be torn apart from within.

NOR SHOULD we overlook the fact that the underprivileged live in better conditions and have greater opportunities now than they did some 10 years ago, despite a certain worsening of their economic condition since 1977 due to high inflation and to the erosion of the value of the child allowances paid by National Insurance. But what may appear as objective improvement to a middle-class observer may be the source of even greater frustration to a slum-dweller, if he believes that the gap between himself and the others has widened as the others race ahead with their trips abroad, video sets and villas in Samaria. On the other hand, if the boundary between the underclass and the vast middle class remains as open as it has been in the last 10 years, then the slum-dweller can picture himself one day living a comfortable if not luxurious life.

"Relative deprivation," then, as the sociologists call it, holds the main key to the level of discontent generated by objective inequality. But the ways in which this discontent will be expressed politically, or diverted to other targets, depends on factors beyond the discontent itself. And for the foreseeable future, these factors point away from a mass upheaval.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

Smoking ads curbed

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN
Post Knesset Reporter

No bathing beauties or tennis players may be shown in cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, under the long-delayed bill restricting tobacco advertising that passed its second and third readings in the Knesset last week.

Completely banned is the advertising of cigarettes and other tobacco products on radio or television, in cinemas or other public screening, in public transport, or on outdoor signs.

Advertising in newspapers and magazines will be subject to severe restrictions. Advertising praising the virtues of smoking is prohibited. An advertisement may not use the name or picture of (a) well-known personalities, (b) anyone below the age of 40, (c) anyone in uniform, or (d) anyone wearing sport attire or a bathing suit.

Every permitted advertisement, and every packet of cigarettes or other tobacco product must include the following warning: "Warning: The Ministry of Health has determined that smoking is harmful to health."

The warning requirement in permitted advertisements will take effect three months after the law is gazetted (which will be within the next few days); all other provisions of the law will take effect after six months.

Swoop on cable TV operators

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Haifa police last week cracked down on the proliferating "pirate" cable TV stations that have attracted thousands of local residents ready to pay IS300 a month for entertainment considered superior to the official TV programmes.

But pirate television operator Eliyahu Possek pledged to continue broadcasting.

Possek's flat in Kiryat Eliezer was raided by police, customs officers and officials of the Communications Ministry last Sunday night. Possek said there were about 25 other cable television stations operating in Haifa and neighbouring towns.

The raiders, who had search warrants, took video equipment, films, contracts and other documents — including brochures and programme schedules allegedly relating to the illegal business.

Police said they acted following a complaint from the Communications Ministry, which, by law, alone can authorize cable television services. The customs officials were investigating possible irregularities.

Possek admitted that he was the owner of the Kol Sherut cable TV station, but denied that the business is illegal. According to the police, the service had 500 subscribers.

During the evening, units of the investigators swooped on the homes of alleged subscribers in the Neveh Sha'anani quarter to collect evidence against other cable-television operators.

A police spokeswoman said inquiries were continuing and more raids could be expected in the near future. "This is not the end of the matter by any means," she said.

THE JEWISH WORLD

The trials of Yosef Begun

By ESTHER HECHT
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Moscow-born Dr. Yosef Begun, 50, has spent most of the last five years in exile in Siberia, and is now under arrest and threatened with far harsher punishment, for teaching Hebrew to Jews in the Soviet Union. Yet there is nothing illegal in what he has done, says a friend and former student of Begun, Dr. Haim Margulis, who emigrated to Israel in 1974.

"Soviet law grants to all minorities in the Soviet Union the freedom to teach their national language. But in practice, Hebrew is the only language which may not be taught openly."

Soviet opposition to Hebrew is not new. Its origins may be traced to the period of Lenin's rule, when Stalin, then adviser on nationalities, claimed the Jews are not a nation (and by implication, have no national language). Under Stalin, the Jewish section of the Comintern claimed that Yiddish is the language of the proletariat, and that Hebrew — the language of the Talmud — is a reactionary tongue.

Hebrew is taught in universities in major cities in the Soviet Union, but these courses are strictly for non-Jews who will eventually serve the KGB by gathering intelligence from Israeli newspapers, says Margulis.

BEGUN, who holds the equivalent of a doctorate in mathematics, was forced out of his job as senior research assistant at the Central Research Institute in Moscow in 1971, after submitting his first application for an exit visa to Israel. His application was refused on grounds of "state considerations."

Unable to find employment in his field, Begun worked as a night watchman and labourer. He lost these jobs as well because he was detained by the police several times, but was given no documents concerning the detention that would explain his absence from work.

In 1972, Begun, who had taught himself Hebrew, started giving private Hebrew lessons. He tried repeatedly to register with the Department of Finance as a private teacher, and to have the appropriate income tax deducted. His requests were refused, first on the pretext that there is no programme of instruction of Hebrew in Soviet institutions of higher learning, and then because he had no formal training as a Hebrew teacher.

These arbitrary refusals made it possible in 1977 to charge Begun with "parasitism" — avoiding socially useful work and living on "unearned income" — even though in 1975 article 109 of the Criminal Code, which deals with parasitism, had been repealed.

Begun's wife was the only sym-



pathetic acquaintance of Begun allowed into the courtroom. Her transcript of the trial shows it as a cruel parody of justice, with the prosecution witnesses stumbling over their coached testimony, contradicting themselves and each other and lying blatantly. The judge became nervous and irritable when it seemed that witnesses had completely forgotten what they had been instructed to say.

Though the maximum punishment for parasitism is one year's deprivation of freedom, the court sentenced Begun to two years' exile in Siberia, cynically claiming that it was imposing less than the maximum sentence.

In his appeal to the Supreme Court, Begun pointed out the implication of his conviction: "Having convicted me, the court thus encouraged the policy of banning the private teaching of Hebrew — the policy of discrimination against the Jewish language." His appeal was rejected.

Begun's joy at being reunited with his family in 1978 was short-lived. He had not been warned after serving his term, he would be deprived of his right to live in Moscow, but upon his return from Siberia he was refused permission to register at his former residence, on the pretext that it was undergoing major repairs, nor was he allowed to register at his wife's residence.

He appealed these arbitrary refusals and requested temporary permission to reside in Moscow until the matter of permanent residence had been decided. While his appeal was still pending, he was tried and convicted of violation of "passport regulations," his previous conviction for parasitism being given as grounds for refusing him permission to live in Moscow.

At this trial he was not allowed to retain an attorney of his choice, and Begun — in the 43rd day of a hunger strike — was too ill to testify in his own defence. This time the court imposed not double, but triple the maximum sentence, and he was exiled to Siberia for three years.

There is no doubt that the continued persecution of Begun was intended to discourage Jewish activism. In 1976, Begun was one of

the organizers of a symposium on the problems of Jewish culture — a symposium which the KGB prevented from taking place.

Begun, the mathematician, was an assimilated Jew when he first applied to emigrate; the experience of being a refusenik led him to seek his roots, and he became an observant Jew. His eloquent and outspoken defence of the right to teach Hebrew openly and his attempts to raise the Jewish consciousness of assimilated Soviet Jews has, clearly, been galling to the authorities.

Begun's case is unique in that he is the only Prisoner of Zion to have been tried twice, says Margulis. In the early 1970s, many refuseniks were allowed to emigrate following a period of exile, but the authorities seem bent on making an example of Begun, thus threatening other Jewish activists that they may never leave the Soviet Union if they persist in trying to maintain and disseminate Jewish culture.

On November 7, 1982 Begun was arrested again and has been held in Vladimir Prison, one of the worst in Russia. No one has been allowed to see him since his arrest.

NO CHARGES have been pressed, but the authorities are clearly searching high and low for something to pin on him. In the home Begun shared with Ina Spiranski, his common-law wife, they found "incriminating" material, works on Jewish history and Zionism, and even Menachem Begin's book about his own imprisonment in a Soviet camp.

Spiranski, despite repeated interrogations, has steadfastly maintained that the books are hers. In an apparent effort to intimidate her into cooperating with the KGB she has been told that Begun may be charged under article 70 — disseminating anti-Soviet propaganda — which carries a maximum sentence of seven years in prison and five years in exile.

Margulis, who has tirelessly campaigned on Begun's behalf since 1974, stresses the urgency of the case. Jewish organizations around the world, as well as other organizations — UNESCO and the International Labour Organization, for example — have been asked to give the case top priority, and individuals are urged to press their parliamentary representatives into action.

"The persecution of Begun is not just a personal tragedy; it is a matter of cultural genocide," warns Margulis. "If Begun is brought to trial, it will be a severe blow to the teaching of Hebrew and the propagation of Jewish culture in the Soviet Union, and may lead, ultimately, to the loss of the third largest Jewish community in the world."

In 1981, Kanyevsky, Senderov and two other Soviet Jewish intellectuals issued a study accusing authorities of "intellectual genocide" for allegedly discriminating against Jews applying to or graduating from the country's most prestigious university.

In Moscow, a mathematician who circulated a study alleging discrimination against Jews applying for Moscow State University went on trial last week for slandering the state.

Soviets crack down on two Jewish dissidents

Jerusalem Post Staff

TEL AVIV. — Soviet refusenik Shimon Schnerman of Kerch has been arrested again for refusing to serve in the Red Army. Schnerman has just completed a two-and-a-half year prison term for refusing to serve, the Council for Soviet Jewry announced here last week.

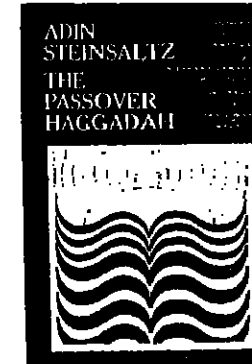
Schnerman, a metal technician, was tried in June 1978 for refusing to serve in the Soviet army. He told

the court he refused to serve as he was expecting an exit permit to emigrate to Israel to join his father, who made aliyah in December 1976.

He is now in jail awaiting trial, the council said.

In Moscow, a mathematician who circulated a study alleging discrimination against Jews applying for Moscow State University went on trial last week for slandering the state.

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ALIYA is a sore subject these days that many people discuss but do nothing about. Lucy Shahar, herself an immigrant, is a notable exception.

"How to Survive Israel" is the name of the six-to-eight-week workshop series Shahar conducts at absorption centres all over the country, to help English-speaking immigrants adjust to life in Israel. The enterprising Shahar, a Yom Kippur War widow, first came on aliya some 15 years ago.

"Lucy has obviously been through it herself," according to one participant at a session of Shahar's "survival" course, held recently at WUJS (World Union of Jewish Students) in Arad. "She has answers to questions I haven't even thought to ask." Another participant said he found the weekly three-hour sessions "very American" and therapeutic with their "how-to" approach.

Shahar leads her students through fun and instructive role-playing exercises, presenting them with real-life situations which they may encounter and have to cope with in Israel.

One such scenario is that of an immigrant mother whose child gets sick on Shabbat. After measuring his temperature with a Fahrenheit thermometer, the mother takes the feverish child to the local emergency clinic where she is confronted by a system unfamiliar to her.

Everything takes too much time and the results are frustration,

Survival course

Fears and frustrations get talked out at Lucy Shahar's workshops for new immigrants. Anne Levine reports on the project.



Lucy Shahar

dissatisfaction, anger.

Shahar helps workshop participants see what "stress-reducing" options they can exercise in such situations. In this one, for instance, the mother could take along an Israeli who "knows the ropes," or could leave the sick child at home, go to take a queue number, and come back later. Even a small detail like buying a Centigrade thermometer could ease her way.

Beyond handy how-to's, Shahar's course also provides an opportunity for new immigrants to voice their fears ("What if I don't like it?"), and frustrations ("Me, with my MA — I feel so dumb talking first-grade Hebrew!"). She encourages and helps people to tap their inner resources, to be aware of what problems to expect, and to be ready to face them.

Although the workshops provide a necessary forum for self-examination, and a framework for group support which is vital to strangers in a new place, Shahar says she tries to keep the meetings from becoming "a group gripe sessions."

"Of course, people complain and even cry," she says, "but I think the sessions help to strengthen them

too. We talk about ways to get along here without 'selling out'.

"Sometimes one has to give up some of one's self in order to adjust — call it flexibility or willingness to change. A rigid person will have a hard time of it here."

Shahar recalls the "culture shock" she first had when coming to Israel, and her years of teaching history to disgruntled teenaged immigrants at the American International School in Kfar Shmaryahu. Together with her formal training — she returned from a two-year stint in Washington, D.C. directing workshops for future immigrants —

these experiences have helped her design "How to Survive Israel."

"The programme is based on the assumption that the process of adjustment to another culture represents a major life transition," Shahar explains in her course outline. "To a great extent, it can be understood, monitored and controlled, and individuals can be trained in survival and communications skills vital to successful adaptation to Israel."

Commented one participant at the WUJS session, "Lucy herself, is more than an instructor" (Shahar calls herself a "facilitator") — for she is an example. Besides, her own funny stories about what she went through help us to laugh at ourselves, too."

Another participant did laugh as she described how "lowered expectations" — a concept Shahar works on with her groups — helped her get through a job-interview day. "As I slipped up on the bus to Tel Aviv, I told myself that even if I only got a felalet and two hours at the Diaspora Museum it wouldn't be a total loss."

"As it turned out, everything went fine, but I was ready for the possible disappointments. I went

into the day flexible, ready to bend, so that set-back wouldn't make me give up."

The WUJS workshop held that day focussed on the difference between Diaspora and Israeli Jews, and was a continuation of the previous week's discussion on the "letting go" process involved in changing cultures.

Shahar warmed the group up by asking them to give in one word their first association with the concept "being Jewish." "Holidays," "family" and other responses were given and seemed fairly predictable, but the WUJS students were surprised when Shahar told them Israelis gave none of the same associations, having answered "history," "land," "Eretz Yisrael," etc.

"When I asked Israelis the same question," she explained, "they scarcely knew what I meant. It took them much longer to come up with far fewer things." Following discussion on this, she added that the immigrants' "associations are those of the Galut Jew who is in the minority, while the Israeli answers have nothing to do with being in the minority."

However, she said, "If you come here to be more Jewish in the Jewish homeland, you may find yourself yet again in a minority. This is one of the painful dilemmas and ironies for the new immigrant."

"One of the things that you are confronted with in Israel is deciding what kind of Jew you can and will be here."

"When I left the army, I knew a lot of people in my profession (economics) — like in the Finance Ministry — so that when I told them I was looking for a job, it served me well." Already 25 years earlier, she had the foresight to apply herself to a single discipline, rather than to remain a "generalist."

"When I was in my 20s, I never stopped studying, and although I wasn't necessarily looking for a career, I wanted to be better in things that were interesting to me. I went to study computers because I was interested in them. If you're not always in the process of studying, then you can't advance in a professional framework."

Tomer added that there were never any conflicts for her between family and career. Yet, because of family considerations, she has set limits on the type of work she will do, avoiding jobs that would have demanded too many hours. She readily admitted, however, that at Bank Hapoalim, where 25 per cent of the department heads, but less than 5 per cent of branch managers are female, a number of women ultimately opt for family over career.

"If a woman applies for a branch manager position, she has the same opportunities for landing the job as a man. But, most women don't want to work the long, hard hours of a branch manager and give up their family life."

As many as 39 per cent of all working women choose part-time jobs that end at 1:00 p.m. when the school day is over.

As long as Israeli women continue to bear the bulk of childrearing duties, schools continue to close in the middle of the work-day, and day-care centres accommodate only 50 per cent of the nation's preschoolers, (practical considerations not touched on by the panel), it is enough for most women to enter the job market, let alone to advance within it.

(Nevertheless, in a recent study conducted by Tel Aviv University professor of psychology Dr. Arila Friedman, on women in professional schools — law and medicine — the respondents' answers cast doubt on Blumenthal's formula for success. When questioned about how they view their own abilities, the women scored high. However, when asked if they felt they would eventually fulfil their professional potentials, the overwhelming majority said they wouldn't know until after marriage. According to Friedman, this indicates that most women still view their relationships with men as more important than their career — which they feel can ultimately be sacrificed.)

Israel, unlike the U.S., where the number of single people rose from 5.3 to 8.3 per cent of the population over the last decade, is a marriage-oriented society. Even successful women such as sociologist Bilha Mannheim — one of only nine women professors at the 98.2 per cent male Technion — make certain concessions to motherhood. Rather than waste time eating lunch in the cafeteria, she explained, "I take a sandwich to eat at my desk, so I can leave work a half-hour early every day. It gives me that much more time to spend with my children."

Any woman who does likewise, misses the social give-and-take of business lunches and, according to Mannheim, "isn't part of the good-old-boy system. She doesn't benefit from a network or referral system," which helps one form contacts that are invaluable in getting a more responsible job.

By her own admission, Dvora Tomer has effectively mimicked a number of "male" traits to place herself in the vanguard of Israel's working women.



Dvora Tomer, a former head of the Women's Army Corps.

women. Although engineering and architecture remain solidly male bastions, 39.1 per cent of the mathematics and natural science degrees were earned by women that year, 37.2 per cent of all medical doctor degrees and 51 per cent of all law degrees were received by women.

Today — and this is perhaps the most encouraging statistic — of Israeli women with 16 or more years of education, 77 per cent work in their professions outside of their homes which is the same percentage for professional working men with the same schooling.

Home vs. office

By Roberta Elliot

lucrative corporate management assignments.

The public sector is no better in its promotion practices than is private industry. Karti went on. "There are no women bureau heads, no women in technical grades."

The 4,000 Israeli women who are said to be in management, she added, are managers in name only — "managers on paper, without authority."

Yet, she was optimistic that the picture is beginning to change.

"Today a new generation is blossoming which started in the 1970s when the number of women in the work-force radically increased." Although these women are just now reaching mid-level management positions, she said, by the 1990s their impact should be felt in administrative positions throughout the private and public sectors, and even in the political arena.

If the 1990s seems a long wait for women, for the men on the panel it is little more than the natural course of events. As Proper of Osem said, "I'm surprised there are as many as eight per cent of women in the management force."

Blumenthal, for his part, agreed that women are victims of discrimination. But, he said, "We have to wait for the evolution and development of women in their fields."

"You can no longer be a manager without being a *halal miksoa* (expert in your field), and there simply are not women in fields like mathematics, chemistry, engineering. As soon as women study the same fields, their percentage of the management pool will grow."

Recent trends in education are encouraging. For example, nearly 49 per cent of the country's 1979 baccalaureate degrees went to

WHY IS IT that out of every 100 working people in Israel, 39 are women, but out of every 100 people in managerial positions, only eight are women?

And why is it that, whether working in "pink-collar" jobs — the stereotypically "female" professions like nursing, teaching and clerking — or in less "traditional" fields such as academia, science or agriculture, Israeli women are, for the most part, stuck in mid- and entry-level positions?

These were two of the main questions dealt with at a panel discussion held during the Na'amat organization's recent month-long campaign "Shavei C'moha" ("Equal like You").

Addressing the role of women in management at the panel were representatives from the public and private sectors, including Zohar Karti, director of the Division for Employment and Status of Women of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs; Bilha Mannheim, professor of sociology at the Technion; MK Naphtali Blumenthal, chairman of the board of Koor Industries; Gad Proper, head of Osem Foods; and Dvora Tomer, currently head of personnel at Bank Hapoalim, and former head of the Women's Army Corps.

In the audience were 200 women in managerial jobs — roughly half the number of women in the country's most elite positions.

Women certainly have the ability for organizing and managing and have been successfully doing so on a volunteer basis — Beautiful Israel, Han, etc. — where they collect and disburse large amounts of money, Karti of the Labour Ministry pointed out. Yet they usually only reach mid-level management positions in the professional world. One exception is the legal profession, where women can be found in higher level positions since many men leave their legal jobs for more

FILMS



Bo Derek and Ursula Andress, seated with Yoram Globus and Menachem Golan at a premiere party.

Menachem Golan's new heights

By Joan Borsten

MENACHEM GOLAN has launched the production of his new feature film *Sahara* with an announcement of such consequence to the future of the local movie industry that his several hundred luncheon guests temporarily lost interest in actress Brooke Shields. Together with his cousin and long-time partner Yoram Globus, Golan has begun building a Hollywood-style studio in Ma'aleh Adumim, the new town between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea. At the helm of "G.G. — Israel Studios for Film and Television, Inc." will be Yitzhak Kol, director-general of, and driving force behind, Herzliya United Studios.

For a small country with a small film industry, the very scope of the Golan-Globus project is staggering. Taking advantage of the generous benefits the government gives to those who invest in the West Bank, the duo have planned an 80-acre, \$10m.-plus complex. The studio will include six sound stages (two each for filming, TV and recording), workshops for set-building, dressing- and make-up rooms, facilities for direct and satellite TV transmission, production offices, editing rooms, warehouses for storing props, scenery and equipment. On the grounds, G.G. will erect 40 villas for staff. At a later stage, a small airport will be built, as well as a 20,000 seat amphitheatre and, eventually, "Bible City." The latter, like Universal Studio's profitable "Movie Land," will be made up of sets that can be used by local and foreign productions, and will also be a tourist attraction.

Almost \$4m. will be invested initially by Golan-Globus (or their American company, Cannon) and interested Germans. An additional \$6m. will come from the government, 35 per cent in the form of an outright grant, 40 per cent as a loan on easy terms. Additionally, G.G. will benefit from the many incentives given to attract "approved industries" to the West Bank — among them subsidized land and participation in the cost of staff training, as well as exemption from income tax for the first five years after the enterprise shows a profit.

"I'm not going to Ma'aleh

Adumim because of my political beliefs," Golan told *The Jerusalem Post*. "In fact, I've long been a backer, though not a member, of the Labour Party. We decided on Ma'aleh Adumim for two reasons: financial and location — it's only a seven-minute drive from Jerusalem. I know that Tel Aviv is the centre of the local film industry, but 90 per cent of the foreign productions which have come to Israel have not filmed there. They have wanted to be in Jerusalem and the south — Masada, Sdom, the Negev, Eilat and Sinai. So, as I wanted to attract foreign production to Israel, the outskirts of Jerusalem is the logical site for a studio."

HOW DOES Golan plan to attract enough foreign companies to keep the six sound stages booked year round?

G.G., he says, will be stocked with the best equipment available: a million dollars worth has already been brought here for use on *Sahara*, the largest production ever filmed locally. The studio itself will be as sophisticated as any in England, France or Italy. The government is offering foreign companies a loan on easy terms: two dollars for every dollar invested. And G.G. is offering complete "below the line" investment. That is to say, a production company can technically film here without having to commit any of its working budget to studios, technicians' equipment and laboratory costs.

"Yugoslavia attracts scores of productions annually by investing 50 per cent of the below the line costs," says Golan. "We're offering to invest 100 per cent."

This year alone Cannon Films, which is owned primarily by Golan-Globus, will produce here not only

Sahara, but *The Ambassador*, which will star Charlton Heston and Telly Savalas; yet another sequel to *Lemon Popsicle*; and an army comedy called *Sahaba*.

IF GOLAN'S announcement that he would build a full-fledged studio here surprised the local film industry, the fact that Yitzhak Kol will head the project shocked them. Kol negotiated his jump from head of United Studios to G.G. director-general and a Cannon International vice-president in total secrecy. Apparently even Ruth Amir, his executive secretary for the past 18 years, did not know that Kol was going to resign until he informed the board of his intention.

The two questions Kol is being asked most frequently today are how, as someone long identified with the Labour Party, he can agree to work in the West Bank, and what brought him to join forces with Golan-Globus, whose methods he has long criticized. Kol apparently has no trouble coming to grips with either obstacle — Ma'aleh Adumim, as he points out, correctly, is part and parcel of the Allon Plan (the late Yigal Allon, a Labour Party leader, proposed a peace plan for the West Bank which provided for certain security zones for Israel). As for Golan-Globus:

"Say what you want...they are naive and gamblers, but they have imagination, they know how to make decisions, they are two productive, self-made men, and I respect that. What people should be asking is how, at the age of 50, can I begin again from scratch. I'm pleased that I had the ability and courage to leave Herzliya and try something new. Everyone always says about Golan, look how well that boy from Tiberias has done. Well, I've produced 18 films locally, two of them Oscar nominees, and now think it's time to show what a boy from Petah Tikva can do internationally."

Kol's connection with Golan dates back to 1969, when Noah Films was making *My Margot*. Herzliya was providing lab services. "One of my big fights with Golan-Globus was always their way of working," says Kol. "They advocate paying nothing at all, and if they have to pay something, then as late as possible. I say pay soon and pay well."

"One day Menachem came to me to get the working print of the film. I said, 'Not before you pay.' He said he had no money, having already mortgaged his home, and sold his furniture and his car. 'All I have,' he told me, 'is my three daughters, and I can't get money for them, and this movie. Either you give me the print, or you destroy me.'"

"I gave in," says Kol, "as apparently did many others. And today Golan-Globus are doing more productions annually than many studios, they own a chain of theatres in England, and they are names in world film. They have made lots of enemies, but so have I — there's a limit to how successful you can be in this country. But I'd rather fill Bloomfield Stadium with enemies than have everyone like me."

AMONG THE main reasons Kol gives for leaving Herzliya, a studio that was bankrupt when he took it over and is now, together with Berké making a \$1.5m. profit annually, are the board's directors' refusal to go public or to give him shares in the studio. On February 1, he will move into a new world, one which will undoubtedly be quoted on the Stock Exchange, and in which he has a share of the profit.



Yitzhak Kol

This upside-down pine tree



(Photo: Y.L. Werner)

growing on a Samaria hill-top was twisted by the strong afternoon winds blowing down to the Jordan Valley. For additional interesting information on the nature lore and history of the Land of Israel subscribe to

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A POLICY OF WISDOM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Although the official PLO's goal, as stated in its charter, clearly calls for the destruction of the Jewish State, many prominent Western heads of state and the media claim that this is only a tactical stand, and that, in the event, the Arabs would actually settle for peace with the Jews, provided Israel stopped its settlements policy and gave up the "territories" to the PLO. The fact that the Arabs have repeatedly rejected, for the last 35 years, the 1947 UN Partition Plan is considered a thing of the past.
Let us assume for a moment that it is so, and that the Arabs have changed for the better. One then wonders if this change, dramatically accelerated after the PLO's expulsion from Beirut, is the result of good advice provided by President Mitterrand or the Pope to Arafat, or of 40 years of unavailing attempts to destroy Israel and 15 years of unavailing struggle to stop its settlements policy in the "territories." If the latter is correct, wasn't it wise of Israel to build up its military strength and pursue this settlement policy?

ALFRED WALBERG
Garches, France.

COUNTERING PLO PROPAGANDA

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I recently returned from Osnabrück University, in West Germany, where I spent three months as an exchange student from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
During my short stay, I found The Jerusalem Post a great source of information about what was happening in Israel. During the Peace for Galilee war, I was the only Israeli amongst German students, who

were constantly subjected to PLO propaganda. I therefore felt obliged to counter this very biased presentation of Israel. Although I personally disagreed with some of the anti-government articles which appeared in The Post, I utilised these and others (in particular the Letters to the Editor) to convey the democratic spirit of our nation to my German friends.
Jerusalem
EDITH ARIAY

THE TOURIST INDUSTRY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I refer to David Krivine's detailed report, "On the brink of disaster," about the tourist industry at present (January 16).
Mr. Krivine quotes the Director-General of the Ministry of Tourism, Raphael Farber, as saying "Agents secure massive discounts and fail to pass them on. The profit is pocketed by the agent." This is completely incorrect and should have been verified either with the Association of Israeli Tour Operators or its President, Mr. A. Friedman, before publishing it.
With regard to Palex Tours, I would like to reserve all rights and inform the Ministry of Tourism as well as the Israel Hotel Association that we never pocketed a reduced rate and/or special discounts offered by an Israeli hotel. Whenever we receive a special offer, it is customary to advise our agents abroad accordingly.
D. B. MAYER
Managing Director,
Palex Tours Ltd.
Haifa.

LOS ANGELES DEMONSTRATION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I would like to clear up several misrepresentations in Bernard Lebovitch's letter of December 3 regarding last November's demonstrations in Los Angeles.
There were four distinct demonstrations outside the Bonaventure Hotel on Saturday night, November 13, coinciding with the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations. The police did not have a "terrible time" keeping them apart; in fact, they were placed at separate ends of the hotel, out of sight of each other, by prearrangement of the LAPD.
At the southwest corner of the hotel was a group of some 100 pro-Khomeini Iranians, chanting "death to Israel" and similar ugly slogans.
Several hundred metres to the north was a demonstration of some 800-1000, sponsored by a local "Palestinian solidarity committee" with the cooperation of several leftist groups. Interestingly, this demonstration was directed against Israel's policies in Lebanon, and the strongest placards displayed read "Down with Begin." The organizers forbade any attacks on Israel's existence (a fact your readers may interpret in any way they wish).
At the southwest corner of the hotel was a pro-Begin demonstration, sponsored by the local Jewish Defence League. They were augmented by a few local Brei Akiva and a group of congregants from a Beverly Hills Orthodox synagogue.

Jewish Agenda, and had no connection whatever with Peace Now — although a "Peace Now" banner was unfurled there by two American students who had recently returned from a summer stint as volunteers in Israel.
Los Angeles Friends of Peace Now had taken the public position, well in advance of the General Assembly, that the streets of Los Angeles were no place to vent their disagreements with Mr. Begin's coalition.
There was no "thunderous roar of approval" when Aliza Begin's death was announced — in fact, the news trickled out slowly, and its effect was decidedly sobering on all demonstrators, except the Iranians, who had already broken up.
JONATHAN J. GOLDBERG
Los Angeles.

PRICE IN DOLLARS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I was extremely shocked, when I passed a large dress shop in our main street in Rehovot, to see that it had priced two of the items on show in U.S. dollars. When I asked in the shop why prices were quoted in a foreign currency, I was told that it was "import."
It is understandable to quote prices in dollars for items which have a world price, such as gold, silver, diamonds, etc., or for international travel, tourist hotels, or goods on sale at airport shops. But Rehovot is not a tourist town and it seems to me that this is a very dangerous trend. I don't know if this is legal, but it is degrading for our country.
Rehovot.
DAISY ROESSLER

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I have been pursuing the subject of a much-needed TV news broadcast in English with the authorities, who have stated that there are both financial and technical problems involved. To overcome these difficulties, I then suggested that English sub-titles be added to the regular news in Hebrew programmes.
I am pleased to report that I have recently received a letter from Mr. Zevulun Hammer, the Minister of Education and Culture, advising me that he has asked Mr. Yosef Lapid, the Director-General of the Broadcasting Authority, to bring this important suggestion to serious discussion within the Authority.
E. PINTO



Yosef and Esther Hebron perform the traditional "first haircut" ceremony on their three-year-old son, Nehemia, at the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron. Mrs. Hebron proudly holds the child's locks which she will keep as a souvenir. They are residents of Kiryat Arba, the Jewish town alongside Hebron.
(Zoom 77)

JACOBO TIMERMAN'S WAR BOOK

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Congratulations to Louis Rapoport on his review of Timerman's book (December 26). I always thought it was a mistake to make Israeli efforts to get him out. He is a prisoner of Zion and now he is a pest. Nobody is as intolerant and arrogant as his kind of "liberal."
GERSHON WEILER
Rehovot.
Sir, — Louis Rapoport has written a contemptible review of Jacobo Timerman's interesting and controversial book: "The Longest War" — a book which received unprecedented attention and acclaim in three pages of detailed review in The New York Times by Amos Elon. Mr. Rapoport, whose work I generally admire, dismisses it with an expletive. How could Mr. Rapoport be so unfair in the presentation of his judgement?
Mr. Rapoport's dismissal notwithstanding, Mr. Timerman is an Israeli and has no less a right to use "we" than the rest of us. If Mr. Rapoport doesn't feel that Timerman speaks for him, that is his right. But if Timerman identifies with this, his adopted country and if, in spite of all the gratuitous personal attacks on him by his professional colleagues, continues to live here, all power to him. I for one am very pleased he does. We could use more independent, courageous and talented individuals like him here.
The strangest part of Mr. Rapoport's "review" is that one gets the impression that he agrees with many of Timerman's points — but not his right to say so. Let me be clear about my own evaluation of the book. I find myself in disagreement with most of the political evaluations, but am thoroughly convinced of his right as an Israeli to present his arguments. Timerman's book is a strong, one-sided personal reaction to events which touched all of our lives very deeply this past summer. One doesn't have to agree with his political judgements to know that his book demonstrates sincere conviction.
Timerman, no shrinking violet and plenty contentious himself, is one of the leading journalists in the world today. He has been honoured by virtually every international association of journalists and has been a Fellow of the Institute of Advanced Studies in Princeton University. Israel is his home.
DR. EUGENE WEINER
Haifa.

Louis Rapoport comments:
Dr. Weiner misreads me. I believe Jacobo Timerman has every right to speak as an Israeli — an Israeli of two years standing named J. Timerman. I objected to the "we" when it was used to describe an Israeli who has been through five wars.
I read Amos Elon's rave review of Mr. Timerman's book in The New York Times, in which he compared him to a Hebrew prophet. This is as cynical as Timerman's book itself.

TV NEWS IN ENGLISH

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I would no doubt help if readers all over the world who appreciate the value of such a service, would write to Mr. Lapid urging the Authority to provide English sub-titles.
LESLIE DONN
Netanya (Manchester).
SILENT MAJORITY
To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Hats off to Yosef Tekoah for his article, "Reasonable objective," (January 9), in which he surely voiced the feelings of the silent majority who have in mind the good of the nation as a whole — and not party considerations.
Jerusalem.
E. PINTO

ROAD MANNERS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Gershon Steinberg offered some valuable suggestions on how to improve driving standards in Israel in his "Highway lottery" (December 21). I still believe, however, that the most effective approach is to involve motorists in a personal sense. This means a "Rules of the Road" or a "Politeness on the Road" campaign in which they are induced to take part.
There are all sorts of ways of evolving such a campaign. Drivers would all need to be circularised. They could be given stickers for their rear windows. There could be a "Road Manners Competition," with a very modest but "representational" prize. The media could monitor the campaign, and could report on "Knights of the Road" whose special acts of courtesy have come to their attention. Asked to be polite in the interests of others, motorists are far likelier to respond than when threatened with penalties.
There is dangerous driving in all countries, but Israel is unique in one respect as far as I am concerned. It is the only country where I have seen motorists deliberately drive as close as possible to a meandering pedestrian — in order to make him jump for his life!

THE HON. TERENCE PRITTE
London.
Sir, — American youngsters are taught defensive driving as an important part of avoiding accidents. They are taught to try to anticipate the action of the other drivers.
It seems that the prime lesson taught to Israeli drivers is how to win at the game of chicken — who can force whom to turn away first. Courtesy is almost a non-existent word in the Israeli driver's vocabulary. He or she must always be first and always have or demand the right of way.
I would strongly urge that a great effort be made to teach drivers that a small amount of courtesy can save a lot of aggravation and heartache.
HARVEY POLLACK
Jerusalem (Fords, N.J.)

HOLOCAUST STUDY
To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — In the framework of a study on religious life during the Holocaust, we are looking for anyone who has either documents or information on the following subjects: special prayers and sermons composed during the Holocaust referring to the situation of Jews in occupied Europe; family life in Europe during the Holocaust, including marriage, birth, circumcision, divorce, grass-widowhood, burial and ritual baths; Nazi attacks upon Orthodox Jews, synagogues and ritual objects; circulars dealing with religious daily life — kashrut, ritual slaughtering, prayer, holidays, etc.
Anyone possessing information or documents on the aforementioned subjects is requested to write to Judith Tydor Baume, Aminadav St. 16, apt. 27, Yad Elyahu, Tel Aviv 67066. Israel. All information received will be treated with the utmost confidence.
JUDITH TYDOR BAUME
Tel Aviv.

Readers are invited to submit letters to the editor. We regret however that we cannot acknowledge those which are not published. Letters are liable to be cut for space reasons.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1983

Guarding the north

THE REPORT was no sooner out yesterday that Israel would agree to the manning of early warning stations in Lebanon by U.S. personnel, as in Sinai, than it was denied. Israel's position, it was said, remains that such stations, which would be an essential feature of security arrangements in south Lebanon, must be manned by Israelis.

Unofficially it has been reported that Israel wants three such stations in the 45km. band north of the Galilee border, one near Sidon, another near Nabatiye, and a third one atop Mount Baruk. Their purpose would presumably be to gather information about possible movement of terrorists, whether in small groups or in larger concentrations, as well as against threats by Syrian and other hostile forces from the east.

The actual use of such stations has not been entirely clear. With the PLO troops mostly out of Lebanon already, and the remainder due to leave before the IDF starts pulling out, it is not likely that anything similar to the Katyusha barrage on Kiryat Simona that prompted Operation Peace for Galilee would ever be tried again. On the other hand, no number of early warning stations could ward off a hand-grenade attack on a bus in Tel Aviv.

The usefulness of early warning stations to monitor Syrian moves is more obvious. The Syrians remain a threat, and it is better that they should be visible than invisible.

The Lebanese concede that their central government is at present, and will be for some time, incapable of exercising genuine sovereign control over its territory, so as to guarantee Israel's security. For the time being, they claim, such guarantees should be provided by UNIFIL, which has just won, at Beirut's behest, another six-month extension of its mandate, and by the multinational force headed by the Americans.

Israel does not see it that way at all. UNIFIL has over the past five years shown itself wholly unequal to the task of preventing attacks on Israel from Lebanon. And as for the multinational force, it too is no substitute for the IDF.

There seem, therefore, to be two separate aims: early warning stations to keep track of the Syrians and stations to combat and prevent terror against Israel. The first aim could be handled by American units, as in Sinai. But the second task is not something that can be transferred to foreign troops. Israel's long history of experience with UN forces has shown that foreign units cannot be expected to take the risks or exert the muscle necessary to do the job.

The predictable result of American-manned stations would be to create a running dispute with the U.S. over the efficacy of the American units. There are enough difficulties in U.S.-Israeli relations without adding an additional element of friction. This is something the U.S. should understand no less than it is understood in Israel.

What has to be decided is whether Israeli-manned ground control stations are indeed worth the possible trouble they would cause. If so, perhaps the Lebanese could be persuaded to accept them, if they had a fixed time limit. But perhaps it would be more useful for Israel to relinquish this concept of stations altogether and push instead for an open border with an agreed right for Israeli forces to enter Lebanon in the event of terrorist actions — at least until such time as the Lebanese themselves could guarantee security in the north.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 1983

Moderate' killers

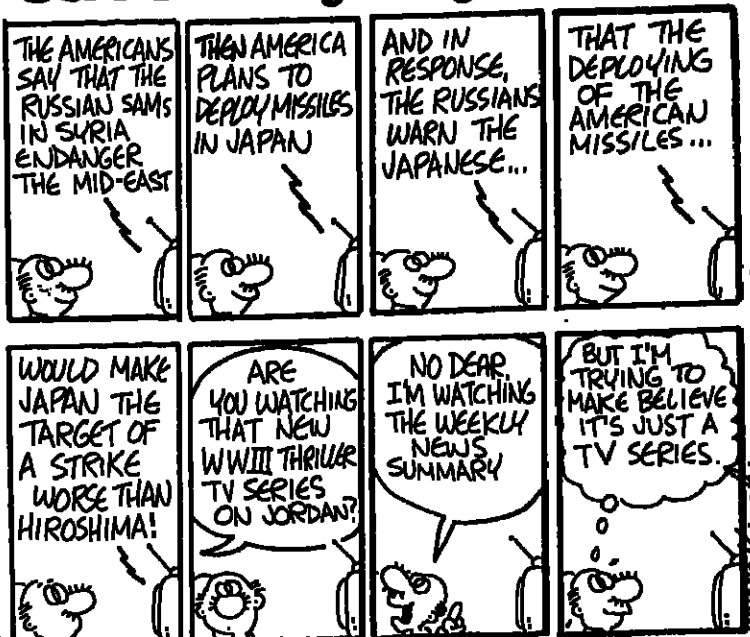
TWO PALESTINIAN terrorist outfits are now vying for the "honour" of having been behind the attack on a bus in Tel Aviv nine days ago: Abu Nidal's dissident group, based in Baghdad, and the widely dispersed PLO itself. The PLO announcement taking credit for the outrage came from Paris, where the organization maintains an office by permission of the French government.

Head of that office is Ibrahim Souss, who is supposed to be a PLO "moderate". Very moderately, he explained that such actions as the Tel Aviv hand-grenade attack bore the character not of terror but of national resistance.

This is plainly the position not of PLO "extremists", such as Hani el-Hassan, a Fatah central committee member who said recently that the PLO purpose is "to regain the land, all the land, of Palestine, all the Palestinian towns of Jerusalem, Nabulus, Haifa, Gaza and Safad." It is the position of the PLO mainstream, which evidently believes that it can with impunity combine politics with terrorism.

The only proper answer to the declaration from Paris must be the fresh excommunication of the PLO. The first move should be France's, in closing down the office of this organization for terror.

The Friday Dry Bones



FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1983

Sharon's African stage

SHORTLY BEFORE he left for Kinshasa earlier this week on his second visit there in little over a year, Defence Minister Ariel Sharon paid handsome tribute to Zaire's President Mobutu, calling him, among other things, courageous. Indeed it took some courage for Zaire's chief of state to break ranks with the countries of the black continent and renew the diplomatic ties with Israel ruptured about a decade ago.

Arab threats of retaliation, including the withdrawal of Saudi Arabia's modest aid programme, had no effect on the Zairean leader.

Mr. Sharon himself, however, is showing more than courage in his embrace of President Mobutu. For it takes simplistic audacity to try to make Zaire the linchpin, even if only for the present, of Israel's effort in Africa.

The truth about President — formerly General — Mobutu's Zaire is common knowledge. While there are few African countries that score well in economic performance, political stability and the observance of human rights, Zaire is one country that scores very low on these counts.

All this, of course, need not deter Israel from extending a hand of friendship to Kinshasa when it offers, as it did last May, to resume normal diplomatic ties. Israel should also be prepared to help the Zairean people, as much as it can, to improve their lot. But for Israel to involve itself directly in Zaire's internal conflicts by helping to keep President Mobutu in power may be an exercise in foolhardiness.

When Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir came to Kinshasa two months ago, he left his hosts in no doubt that Israel could not underwrite any massive economic projects in Zaire. The Zaireans seemed to show understanding. They are in any case looking forward to using a friendly Israel rather than an advocate, and funnel, for the transmission of U.S. aid, which is not forthcoming for the moment.

What President Mobutu is seeking even more keenly, though, is Israel's assistance in propping up his internal security. He expects Israel to help him seal Zaire's southern border against further incursions by exiles from neighbouring Marxist-ruled, Cuban-aided Angola. He also expects Israel to assure his personal safety by building up a Praetorian Guard around him.

In the course of Mr. Sharon's visit this week President Mobutu's expectations turned to Israeli commitments.

To Mr. Sharon, the military sally through Zaire into the heart of Africa may fit well with a grand design of his to check Soviet, Cuban and possibly Libyan power, thus saving the continent for the west and incidentally serving Israel's interest. To Israel's many sympathizers in Africa, or at least to some of them, such firming up of a notoriously autocratic regime may be another reason, or excuse, to hold off the resumption of broken ties.

These friends, in such countries as Nigeria and Kenya, will maintain their thriving business with Israel, which also works to this country's own distinct advantage, but they are not likely to get on the Kinshasa trail. Some lessons of the past, too, suggest that Israel may, in the end, be left holding an empty bag in Zaire itself.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 19, 1983

Who's afraid of Soviet SAM-5s in Syria?

THE SOVIET surface-to-air missiles known as SAM-5s, whose scheduled delivery to Syria was announced earlier this month, are now reported to have been unloaded in a Syrian port last week. They should become operational within the next five to six weeks. They have never before been deployed anywhere outside the Soviet Union.

These missiles, which represent an advanced version of an old type, are said to have a range of 300 kms. This makes them a potential threat from Syria to aircraft flying not only over Tel-Aviv and Amman but also over the Mediterranean halfway to Cyprus, where the U.S. Six Fleet regularly cruises. What is more, the SAM-5s are evidently to be manned by Soviet personnel.

In Washington, President Reagan is said to be disturbed by this Soviet-Syrian move. He has reportedly ordered the Pentagon to share with this country all available information about the missiles.

Israel's official attitude appears to be much more light-hearted. Originally, it is true, there were statements by Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, and by the IDF spokesman, which plainly sought to convey the idea to Damascus that Israel was taking a sombre view of the presence of SAM-5s inside Syria. Abroad, those statements were immediately seen as indication that Israel was readying a pre-emptive strike against the missiles.

Soon after, however, new tunes were being heard. Defence Minister Ariel Sharon hastened to assure the nation that not a single Israeli aircraft would change its flight course because of the deployment of the SAM-5s. Chief-of-Staff Rafael Eitan, chiming in, said Israel was well acquainted with the SAM-5 system, and knew its shortcomings. He suggested that the deployment of the missiles in Syria was a major political but not a military event. The missiles, he said, posed no real threat to Israeli fighter aircraft, and only a limited threat to slower aircraft.

The slower aircraft presumably include Hawkeyes which, according to sources in Washington, served Israel well in strikes against the Syrian missiles in the Bekaa.

Is this something to be taken lightly? Is the presence of SAM-5s in Syria, where they serve to display Soviet power and commitment, a threat to the U.S. and not to Israel? The people of Israel now do not know what to believe. They have been left to ponder contradictory evaluations from the country's political and military leaders — while Mr. Reagan tells them to be concerned.